

I'VE GOT THE

joy joy joy



SHARE JESUS

Ice Breakers

- Share about your favorite hobby. Why is it your favorite?
- Share one thing you love to do.



NOTE: When we make the decision to be a Jesus follower, we are committing to Him and His calling on our lives. He called us all to "GO"

READ Matthew 28:19 and Acts 1:8

A follower of Christ inspires others to follow Christ! We "go" to them so they can come to Jesus.

- Is sharing Jesus always verbal? Why or why not?
- Share your most recent opportunity you had to share Jesus with someone.
- Is there ever a wrong time or place to share Jesus?

READ Philippians 1:15-19

- Where was Paul when he wrote this?
- Do you think he was happy in prison?
- Do you think he had joy?
- What's the difference between happiness and joy?



Quiet confident assurance that God loves me and He is working in my life, regardless of the circumstances!

-----> SHARE JESUS! <-----

- Did jail keep Paul from sharing Jesus?

READ Philippians 1:12-13

- Read verse 12 again...the phrase "what has happened to you..."
- What has happened to you that you could share to inspire others to follow Christ?

NOTE: Your testimony is unique and powerful in leading people to Jesus! The enemy doesn't want you to share it!

READ Philippians 1:17-18

- When you share Jesus, could it make a few unhappy or bitter toward you? (It did Paul).



- Share a time someone didn't want to hear your story. How could you tell they didn't want to hear it?
- How do we deal with people who don't want to hear about Jesus and become unhappy or bitter?

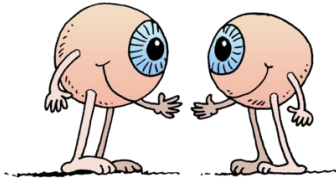
- How did Paul deal with them?

READ Philippians 1:3-4

- He thanked God for them & prayed for them.
- When you thank God for people and pray for them, it changes their attitudes and your own!

READ Philippians 1:17-18

- Did Paul see eye to eye with all Christians?
- Was Paul threatening to some Christians? Why?



- Have you ever felt threatened, rivalry, or competition with other Christians? Why?

NOTE: Sometimes people feel threatened because we compare ourselves to others and don't match up. Other times we feel threatened because we are territorial in ministry...meaning "this is MY ministry" and when a believer comes along who seems to have great giftings we tend to think "What if they can do my ministry better than me?" or "What if they take my position away?"

- Well then do what Paul did & **REJOICE** and find a new ministry.



- Life is short! We need each other and need to work as teammates not as competitors!

---> **STAY ENCOURAGED!** <---

READ Philippians 1:18-19

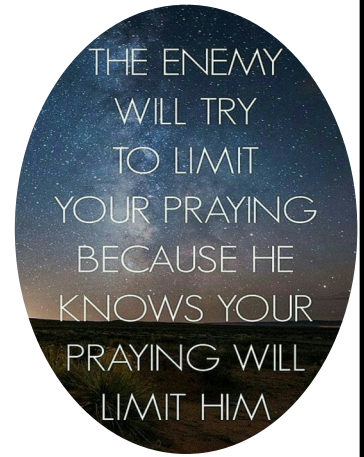
4 Ways to Keep Encouraged (JOY):

1. Keep Rejoicing! (vs. 18)

- Regardless of circumstances, choose to rejoice! What does that look like? Share.

2. Keep Praying! (vs. 19)

- Can you stay encouraged without being in prayer?
- Do you feel it is important to share what you are going through with others so they can pray with you?
- What keeps some people from sharing?



3. Keep Depending! (On the Holy Spirit's power) (vs. 19)

- Do you listen for the Holy Spirit's guidance when faced with adversity?

NOTE: The Holy Spirit is our source of encouragement — He produces joy in us!

(Gal 5:22)

- Do you completely depend upon the Holy Spirit? How do you know that you have done this?

4. Keep Believing! (vs. 19) (Paul was confident)

- Do you have confidence that all "will turn out well"?
- Is your faith unwavering, no matter how things turn out?



Application

- Fight to keep the joy the Holy Spirit is producing in you!
- Stay encouraged by practicing, rejoicing, praying, completely depending on the Holy Spirit, and believing!
- **CHALLENGE:** Take time today to encourage three people by text, phone, email, social media, etc.