

Dig Deeper @Home – “Immature”

Complement to lesson on 10/11/2020 – “A Mature Motivation”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. As a child, what deed was guaranteed to get you in trouble with your mom or dad?
2. What is your favorite song?

MEMORIZE – Philippians 1: 9-11

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

READ Philippians 1:12-26

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What sticks out to you in this passage? What did you like? What didn't you like?
2. What general observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
3. What is this passage revealing about God? About us as humans?
4. Read the background to Paul's letter to the Philippians in Acts 16:11-40. What evidences do you see in these verses of how God worked in and through Paul to advance the gospel?
 - a. Lydia's conversion – (vv. 13-15) – How did the Lord open your heart to respond to the Gospel? Who did God use as a part of the process?
 - b. Slave girl's deliverance – (vv. 16-21) – Why did Paul cast out the spirit in the girl? How do you think the deliverance of this girl served to advance the gospel? What was ultimately behind the trouble this caused Paul and Silas? (vs. 19)
 - c. Paul in Prison – (vv. 22-40) In light of what happened, how do you think Paul felt in vs. 25. If you were falsely accused, severely beaten and thrown into a dark jail, would you still trust in God's plan? About 12 years later, Paul wrote this letter to the Philippians from another prison. How could the events here be the basis for what Paul writes to them about his motivations in vv. 19-26?

Experiential activity – Praising in Dark times

We can only imagine Paul and his friend Silas in prison sitting in “darkness” at midnight as they were praying and singing hymns to God. As you go through this week, and feel the darkness around you personally or in our nation and world, gather up your favorite playlist of songs of worship to pray and sing back to God. Intentionally, sing praise to God throughout the day in the midst of the trouble you see and feel surrounding you. Cry out to Jesus, and trust Him and praise Him for what He has done and is doing as the resurrected, ascended, ever-present Lord and Savior He is.

SING (This is one suggestion of a playlist for the week. You can use this one or make up your own to worship Jesus in the dark)

God, I look to you <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CR5IoWH9Oii>

King of Kings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Of5IcFWiEpg>

Living Hope <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9I7llisdyMk>

Spirit of God descend upon my heart - (Mennonite Hymnal #217)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIOWwihkVSO>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Lord, help me to see “the dark times” as opportunities to grow deeper in You. And teach me like Paul to sing for joy in the darkness as I await your deliverance. Amen.