



“JOY IN THE DAILY GRIND”

Series: “GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING”, Part 2 of 4
Sunday, December 15, 2024, at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Texts: Luke 2:8-10; Philippians 1:12-14, 21-25; Philippians 3:7-8, 10

Big Idea: Joy comes from having a meaning and a mission in life that is bigger than we are.

Luke 2:8-10, “And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

“Joy is an enthusiasm of the heart that transcends circumstances and is anchored in God’s presence and purpose.”

I. SOME CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CHALLENGED PAUL’S JOY.

A. A loss of freedom.

B. A loss of friends.

2 Timothy 1:15, “You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes.”

C. Genuine financial stress.

D. Some family tensions.

II. THE CONDITIONS THAT CREATED HIS JOY.

A. The presence of Christ in his life.

Philippians 1:21, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

“Every circumstance is either caused by or allowed by a loving Father. And God can use each circumstance to teach me something about my relationship with Christ.”

B. He had a purpose for living that was bigger than his own comfort.