

Disciples Church

Joy in Exhaustion <> Philippians 3:12-4:1

Week of July 19, 2017

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

1. Often when we’re exhausted, we have a tendency to critique our past actions in a condemning way. How is this opposed to the gospel and a failure to truly submitting to the sovereignty of God?
2. What is the gospel?
3. In your moments of exhaustion, how have you not applied the gospel?
   1. How can you think through this so that next time you’re exhausted, you can press on toward our goal?
4. Paul exhorts us to imitate him as well as those who walk according to his example. In moments of exhaustion and trial, who are those who God has appointed for you to imitate and look to?
   1. Do you proactively share with them those moments of trial so that they can help you?
5. God puts men and women in our lives who we should imitate because they have been further matured by the Holy Spirit in godly character. Who are those men/women? What things have you tried to imitate so as to become more righteous in your faith?
6. What does it mean when Paul says that the enemies of the cross ‘glory in their shame’?
   1. How have you seen non-believers glory in shame in our culture?
   2. What is the difference between struggling earnestly with a sin and glorying in shame?
7. Read verses 18-19. Spend some time in prayer. Pray for those who are enemies of the cross. Pray for our commitment to them, that we would work to love them and care for them according to God’s word.