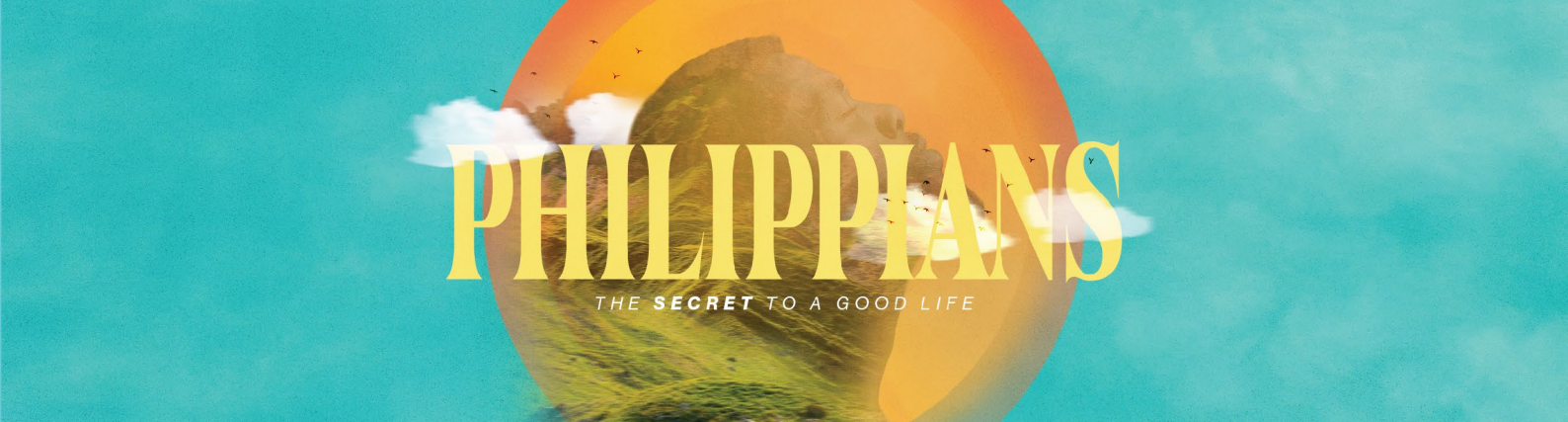




PHILIPPIANS

THE SECRET TO A GOOD LIFE

Philippians – The Good Life is Found in Jesus (Week 3)

Preacher: **Justin Matthews**

Worship Song Suggestion:

Who Else (*Gateway Worship*)

Check-In:

1. What is something you've worked hard to achieve that you're proud of?
2. Have you ever discovered that something you thought would satisfy you didn't?
3. When life becomes difficult, what is your natural response: push through, pull away, or seek God?

Key Scriptures:

- Philippians 3:1-21
- Philippians 3:7-14
- Philippians 3:20-21
- Romans 8:18
- Hebrews 12:1-3

Sermon Summary:

For many people, the good life is defined by success, comfort, achievement, possessions, or status. Paul understood that world well. Before meeting Jesus, he had everything society admired: influence, religious reputation, education, and status. Yet after encountering Christ, everything that once seemed valuable became insignificant compared to knowing Jesus.

Writing from prison, Paul reminds us that the good life is not found when life finally works out, but when Jesus becomes our life. The good life is found in knowing Jesus. It's not found in what we accomplish, what we own, or what others think of us. Suffering, hardship, and uncertainty cannot steal that life because Jesus Himself becomes our greatest treasure.

1. The Good Life Is Found In Knowing Jesus

Paul's greatest desire wasn't simply to know more about Jesus, attend church more faithfully,

or become a better religious person. His deepest longing was to truly know Christ personally.

The challenge for every believer is to continually ask what has become the "main thing" in our lives. Success, comfort, family, career, finances, or even ministry can slowly replace Jesus as the centre. While these are all gifts from God, they were never meant to become our identity or ultimate pursuit. Knowing Jesus is what gives everything else its proper place.

2. The Good Life Presses On

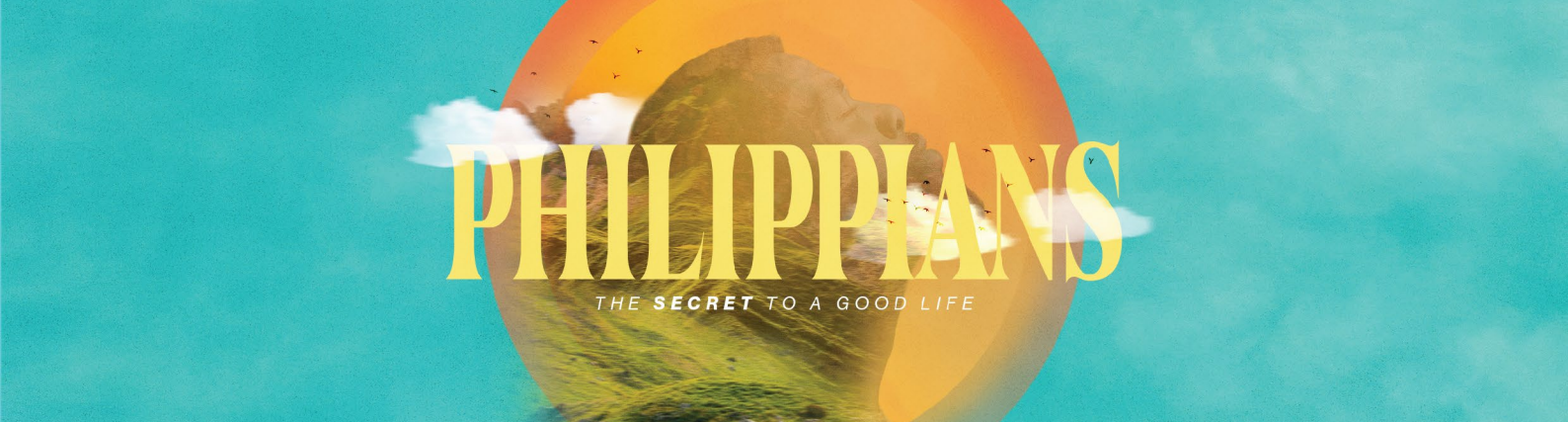
Following Jesus doesn't remove hardship, but it changes how we walk through it. Paul, despite imprisonment, persecution, and suffering, chose to keep pressing forward because his confidence rested in Christ rather than his circumstances.

Instead of giving up when life becomes difficult, followers of Jesus are invited to keep trusting Him, keep serving, keep believing, and keep taking the next faithful step. Because Jesus walks with us, we can press on even when life feels overwhelming.

3. The Good Life Remembers Where Home Is

Paul finishes by lifting our eyes beyond this present world. Our identity is not rooted in temporary possessions or earthly success but in our citizenship in heaven.

Remembering that heaven is our true home changes our perspective. It reminds us that today's struggles are temporary, God's purposes are eternal, and our hope is secure in Christ. This eternal perspective gives us courage to keep trusting Jesus no matter what season we are walking through.



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Key Takeaway

The good life is found when Jesus becomes our life. As we keep Him at the centre, choose to press on through every season, and remember that heaven is our true home, we discover a joy and hope that circumstances cannot take away.

Discussion Questions:

1. Paul says he considered everything else "worthless compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ." What are some things that can quietly compete with Jesus for first place in our lives?
2. Which of the three truths from this message challenged or encouraged you the most:
 - The good life is found in knowing Jesus.
 - The good life presses on.
 - The good life remembers where home is. Why?
3. Is there an area of your life where you feel tempted to give up, become discouraged, or lose hope? What would it look like to "press on" with Jesus this week?
4. How does remembering that heaven is our true home change the way we view our current challenges, disappointments, or successes?

Prayer Pointers:

- Thank Jesus that knowing Him is the greatest treasure we could ever have.
- Ask God to reveal anything that has become more important than Jesus in your heart.
- Pray for strength to keep pressing on through challenges, disappointments, and difficult seasons.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to give you an eternal perspective that sees beyond today's circumstances.
- Pray for renewed joy, hope, and confidence as you follow Jesus each day.
- Pray together: **"Jesus, help me to know You more, keep You at the centre of my life, and give me strength to press on until I see You face to face."**

Weekly Challenge:

Every morning this week, begin your day by praying:

"Jesus, today I choose You above everything else. Help me to know You more, trust You through every circumstance, and live with my eyes fixed on eternity."

Then, each evening, reflect on these three questions:

- Did I keep Jesus as the centre of my day?
- Where did I choose to press on instead of giving up?
- How did remembering heaven change my perspective today?