



Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 24th October 2021

Week 3 – Joy in Helping Others Grow in Faith Philippians 1.27 – 2.11

1. Steve shared a testimony in church on Sunday about joy – how did it encourage or challenge you?
2. With reference to **Philippians 1.3-11**, Stuart mentioned that we all need 3 things if we are going to grow in faith – firstly, we need God to be committed to us – to do His good work in us. Secondly, we need to be committed to our own growth - to work with God as He works with us – to be His Disciples / Learners / Apprentices. What's the final thing we all need? Are you receiving it? Are you helping others get it?
3. *“We are too often afflicted by too small ambitions for ourselves and for others – eternal life is not a ticket to heaven – it’s a gift of a life to be learned, lived and enjoyed – now and forever.”* Do you agree with this? How might we better help one another to learn, live and enjoy the life of God in all its fulness?
4. How might we make the most of the opportunities of Sunday gatherings or other church gatherings, or Small Groups or Christian friendships, to encourage and help others to grow in faith? How might we encourage and help those who are not able to physically gather yet at church to grow in their faith too?

Please read Philippians 1.27 – 2.2

5. What would complete Paul's joy? Do you relate to this source of joy?
6. When facing the pressures from the unbelieving world outside – why do you think Paul emphasizes our need for togetherness – (standing together in one spirit; striving together as one for the truth of the gospel; coming together in fearlessness)?
7. In v29-30 Paul is clear and honest about the expectations of God and the life of faith – why is this important for helping others grow in faith?
8. In the Message version, ch 2 .1 *“If you’ve gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care, then...”*
Paul's obvious expectation and appeal is clear - all believers should respond in faith to Jesus' love for them. What stops us from appealing to our Christian friends to live by faith, like Paul does? Why is appealing like this important in helping others grow in faith?

Please read Philippians 2.3-11

Before we ask, 'What Would Jesus Do?', we firstly need to know what Jesus did.

9. How does Jesus' attitude and lifestyle challenge our selfishness and self-interest?
10. Why is teaching others to know Jesus vital for their growth in faith?