



## CRITERIA FOR JOY

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-20

### GETTING STARTED

- Share with the group about a time in your life when you felt like God worked out a situation for his glory. How did you find joy in that? What were the circumstances?

### SCRIPTURE STUDY

**Before you begin:** *Spend a minute or two in silence before God. Ask the Holy Spirit to enter into your time together and illuminate your hearts and minds to scripture.*

- Have someone read the passage aloud and note any observations, questions, and exciting insights you found while reading through the text to share with the group. What jumped out at you? What was something you noticed now that you didn't see before?
- How does Paul's imprisonment for the Gospel allow others to gain confidence and fearlessness?
- What are some ways in which people might proclaim Christ out of envy and strife or rivalry? What might it look like to preach Christ out of goodwill? How are these different?
- How does the gospel of Jesus enable us to not be ashamed about anything? How does Paul find joy in the midst of what seems like chaos?

### WRAPPING UP

- What might it look like for Christ to be as Paul says "honored in our bodies?" How does this currently apply to the life you live and your current context?
- Find a way to incorporate this into your prayers this evening as you lift each other up in prayer.