



**Pathway Visalia Men's ministry:  
Aug. 3rd-"Value of Knowing Christ"  
"Philippians"**



This next Pathway Men's Ministry meeting will be on Aug. 3rd at 6:30 pm. For those who were unable to attend and for anyone interested, we post the study on our Pathway Visalia website. I pray that you will be able to join us. It is such a blessing to share with one another. Below is an overview of the topics that we will discuss as we work our way through the book of Philippians.

## **THE PRICELESS VALUE OF KNOWING CHRIST**

### **Philippians 3:15-21**

**15 Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. 16 But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.**

**QUESTION: What does “spiritual maturity” look like?**

**QUESTION: “agree on these things” – define “these things”**

**QUESTION: Have you experienced a group of mature Christians who had to make a decision where there was a disagreement? How did that process go?**

**QUESTION: "I believe God will make it plain to you" - Share a time when you saw God make the issue that you (or your group) were praying for, very clear and plain to you.**

**QUESTION: Then Paul ends this section by saying; "we must hold on to the progress we have already made". What does it look like in your life?**

**17 Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. 18 For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ (rejecting and opposing His way of Salvation).**

**QUESTION - "pattern your lives after mine" - What pattern does your life show to others?**

**QUESTION - "learn from those who follow our example" - What do you do to follow good Biblical examples?**

**QUESTION: Do you have someone that you follow as a good Biblical example? What do you seek to emulate?**

**QUESTION: "there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ" – Conduct, or fruit, is a truth detector - Have there been people in your life that you thought were Christians, or they thought that they were Christians, but their actions show that they are not?**

**19 They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth.**

**QUESTION: Picking up on the last question, how can we lovingly point out to an unbelieving person that their truth detector failed?**

**QUESTION:** Appetite - an **inherent** craving. How is your appetite for the Lord? Are you craving to get to know Him better in your life? **It's a good question to ask on a regular basis.**

**QUESTION:** **“they brag about shameful things”** - We don't brag about shameful things - but we do often have issues with pride. What do you do to keep pride in check in your life?

20 But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. 21 He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.”

**QUESTION:** **“But we are citizens of heaven”** - Share about times where you felt like an alien here on earth since you are a citizen of heaven?

**QUESTION:** Let's talk about times in our lives where we were eagerly waiting for something or for someone. What feelings did you have and what preparations did you do?

**QUESTION:** **“He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own”** - Share your thoughts about how our mortal bodies are weak, both physically and spiritually?

4:1 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stay true to the Lord. I love you and long to see you, dear friends, for you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work.

**QUESTION:** **“Therefore”** - What is it there for? - Let's relook at vs. 20 & 21 - What in those verses would help you to; **“Stay true the Lord”**?

**QUESTION:** How would you explain the love that believers have for one another - often stronger for blood relatives.

**QUESTION:** Do you have a person in your life that you have exceeding joy about, because of their relationship with Christ?

2 Now I appeal to Euodia and Syntyche. Please, because you belong to the Lord, settle your disagreement **(to work in harmony in the Lord)**.  
3 And I ask you, my true partner, to help these two women **(to keep on cooperating)**, for they worked hard with me in telling others the Good News. They worked along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are written in the Book of Life.

**QUESTION:** Have you had a disagreement with another believer that you needed to settle - how did you manage it?

**QUESTION:** Have you been asked to help others to settle a matter and how did it go?

**QUESTION:** **“they worked hard with me in telling others the Good News”** - What can we do to increase our work with telling others the Good News?

#### **KEY VERSES FROM PHILIPPIANS:**

4 Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! 5 Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.

**QUESTION:** What do you do to be joyful and rejoice in all of the Jesus has given to us?

**QUESTION:** Can you share where you have experienced people being very considerate with you?

**The Amplified Bible version says, “let your gentle spirit, (your graciousness, unselfishness, mercy, tolerance, and patience), be known to all people”**

**QUESTION -** The question for all of us tonight is how we could be better at being gracious, unselfish, merciful, tolerant, and patient with other people? What challenges do you have in this area?