

# **Where Joy Begins**

**(Philippians 1:1-18)**

## **Introduction**

People are constantly looking for that elusive feeling of happiness. We buy books, we buy stuff, we connect with people, we try to control circumstances, all in a futile effort of attaining happiness.

Our society is so obsessed with happiness that it has resorted to tossing aside anything that does not bring happiness – job, church, spouse, etc.

If you look for happiness in people, they will disappoint. If you look for happiness in stuff, it will deteriorate. If you look for happiness in money, it will never be enough.

**Joy begins when a person finds that which can never be taken away.** We are not ammuned from disease, suffering, or disaster, but you can have joy in spite of those things.

**Introduce this study.**

**Contextualize this sermon.**

## **I. Joy Results From Understanding Who We Are In Christ (v. 1-2)**

**A) A Bond Servant of Jesus (v. 1a)**

**B) A Saint in Christ (v. 1b)**

(Saints are those set apart from sin to God.)

**C) A Recipient of Grace (v. 2)**

## **II. Joy Results From Knowing Our Future Through Christ (v. 3-11; v. 6)**

- A) The Work of Salvation (v. 6)**
- B) The Completion of Salvation (v. 6)**

## **III. Joy Result in Fulfilling Your Purpose In Christ (v. 12-18; v. 16).**

- A) Appointed to the Advancement of the Gospel (v. 16)**
- B) Experiencing the Advancement of the Gospel (v. 12-18)**

**Illustration: L4YN**

## **Conclusion**

**Some of you have**