

Edgewater Growth Group Discussion Questions
Philippians 1v18b-26 / Week 6 / 3.6.2016

Sooner or later, if you are on any classic “spiritual schedule,” some event, person, death, idea, or relationship will enter your life that you simply cannot deal with, using your present skill set, your acquired knowledge, or your strong will power.

Spiritually speaking, you will be, you must be, led to the edge of your own private resources. You will and you must “lose” at something. This is the only way that life - fate - God - Grace - Mystery can get you to change, let go of your egocentric preoccupations, and go on the further and larger journey.

There is no practical or compelling reason to leave one’s present comfort zone in life.

Respond to the 3 statements above

What do you think? What did you hear? Agree, Disagree?

Paul’s Core Beliefs **Philippians 1v18b-26** (read this together)

How can you tell what a person really believes?

What do you think Paul meant when he said; ‘Christ will be magnified in my body?’
(verse 20)

At the tail end of verse 18 Paul says; I will continue to rejoice. Notice that he doesn’t attach an ‘if’ to that statement (I will continue to rejoice if)

What causes us to attach ‘ifs’ to our prayers?

(ex. I will continue to rejoice if this happens; if you answer my prayer; if he changes; if she comes to her senses; etc.....)

How do you get to the place where you can leave the ‘ifs’ off your requests to God?
(to be able to say; I have learned to be content in all circumstances)

Notice that Paul is working this stuff out with his friends.
Why do you suppose it is so important to work this stuff out together?

What happens when we say things like; I got this; or I don't want to bother you with my problems; or this will just work out in time - there's no need to bring this up - I can do this alone?

Why do you suppose that we wait until the dung hits the fan before we turn to others for help?

Read II Corinthians 1v8-11

What do you hear in this part of Paul's letter to his friends in Corinth?

What are some ways that we can begin to put our hope into God?

What causes us to put our hope into things that can't deliver?

Where do you need some hope right now?

If you find yourself in a place of despair; you're up against something and you have no idea what to do; would you feel comfortable asking for help?

Spend some time praying together; for each other...

Maybe your growth group is a good place to share these things

If not, please let me know. I would be happy to sit down with you. If I am not able to help you I know some people that might be able to help you through your struggle.

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Grace and Peace