

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of October 25, 2020

Really

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from [Philippians 1:12-14](#)

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

- After 11 verses, we finally get some news about what is actually happening to Paul: All of his plans had been thwarted.
- Reasons we suffer?
- God is bringing suffering into Paul's life, for the sake and spread of the Gospel to have an effect on both unbelievers and believers
- The praetorian guard was approximately 9000. "All the rest" (13).
- "All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household" ([Philippians 4:22](#))
- "And most of the brothers" ([Philippians 1:14](#))
- "Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His Kingdom is forever." (*Martin Luther (1529), "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*)
- Paul's life was in Christ so when he suffers, he suffers in Christ.
- Your suffering is not ours only
- There are some kinds of suffering that only God can alleviate

For Further Discussion: *Philippians 1:12-14*

- In general, **what kinds of situations discourage you?** When do you **lose your courage in ministry?**
- How does Paul **see his imprisonment?**
- How were the **Philippians likely to be struggling** in light of Paul's imprisonment?
- How did the **Lord strengthen the brothers** by Paul's imprisonment?
- What **effect** does this suffering have on Paul?
- How does the **Gospel change** how we **understand our circumstances?**
- Has God "**chained**" **you** to anyone (*in a family, sickness, workplace, conflict, neighborhood, etc.*) in order to share the Gospel? **Pray together** for those relationships. Pray for boldness to share message of Jesus Christ for yourself and for the church. Ask God for grace to see His faithfulness in our circumstances and suffering.