



**PHILIPPIANS:
ENJOYING LIFE**
An interactive Bible study for
individuals, families,
and LIFE Groups

~ Week Twelve ~
"Keeping the Vision for Joy"
Philippians 3:17-4:1

SERMON NOTES

Record your insights and observations from this week's sermon:

Thanks for using UPC's weekly Bible study guide. We pray that this tool will help you RECALL what you heard in the Sunday sermon, REFLECT on the Scriptures more fully, and RESPOND with love to God, church, and community. If you miss a sermon, or would like to review it, visit our website: www.upc-orlando.com.

WARM UP

What is your mental picture of heaven? Be honest: Does your picture excite you, puzzle you, or bore you?

RECALL THE SUNDAY SERMON

Read Philippians 3:17-4:1

a) What was your main "take-away" from this week's sermon?

b) Who are the "enemies of the cross of Christ" that Paul is referring to in Philippians 3:18? What does he mean when he says that "their god is their stomach" (3:19)?

c) What does it mean to you that your citizenship is in heaven (3:20)? How should your citizenship in heaven affect or influence your citizenship as an American?

d) What is Jesus Christ going to do for believers when He returns (3:21)?

REFLECT A BIT FURTHER

- a) In Philippians 3:17, Paul suggests it is important to emulate or follow the example of other, more mature believers. Who are the people you consider to be your examples or mentors in the faith? (Beside each name, write down one or two qualities you admire most in that person.)

- b) For the Christian, it is encouraging to think of the second coming of Christ. One of the things that will happen upon Christ's return is the glorification of our bodies. Read the following Bible verses, and summarize what you hear the Bible teaching about our glorified bodies – Philippians 3:21; Romans 8:28-30; 1 Corinthians 15:35-57; 2 Corinthians 5:1-4.

- c) Are you eagerly awaiting the return of Christ (3:20)? Why or why not?

- d) Paul concludes this section of his letter with an exhortation to “stand firm in the Lord” (4:1). Where does the power to stand firm come from?

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

- a) Paul indicates in this section that there are but two destinies for human beings after they die. One is “destruction” (3:19), and the other is “heaven” (3:20). According to this week's passage of Scripture, what things characterize the people in each group?

- b) To which of the two groups above do you belong? (If you are not sure you are going to heaven when you die, please talk to someone at UPC or in your LIFE Group about it this week.)

PRAY FOR UPC

Please join us in praising God for:

- **Vacation Bible School** last week – Around 250 children came to VBS, and many of these do not normally attend UPC. Thank God for all the volunteers who made it possible, and for God's mercy with the weather and other unpredictables!

Please pray for:

- The many **children** who prayed to receive Christ last week at Vacation Bible School. Pray that the gospel will transform their lives and impact their families.
- **Matt Johnson and Jason Howell**, who return today from participating in a relief effort in New Orleans.
- The **fathers** who attend UPC. Pray that this Father's Day will encourage and sustain them in their ministry to their families and community.
- **Pastor Mark Bates** as he travels to Atlanta this week to participate in the annual General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America.