



Rejoice In The Lord Always!

Sermon-based Guide for Reflection and Discussion Week of February 13

Scripture: Philippians 3:12-21

Sermon Title: *Finding Joy in the Middle*

So often, we love the excitement that comes with starting things and the feeling of accomplishment when we complete or end something. However, the middle is always the part we wish we didn't have to face. Sometimes being in the middle can feel frustrating, boring, or downright challenging. This can also feel true about our journey with Christ. We easily forget, though, that we are all works in progress as we are following Jesus, and there is so much joy to be found in the middle of the journey. We are invited to come as we are, growing alongside our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

Questions:

1. Do you ever feel as though you should be further along in your relationship with Jesus by now? How so?
2. What are some things that are currently pulling your attention away from pursuing Christ?
3. If you reflect back on your journey with Christ, what are some small or large steps you've made that you can take joy in today? How can you remember those successes when you're feeling inadequate?
4. Is there someone in your life who can, or already does, help you continue to grow in your faith? What do they do that is helpful?
5. Is there someone in your life whom you can come alongside to help encourage their faith journey? If there isn't anybody in particular, how can you be more aware of this need and ways you might be an encourager?