



² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

Philippians 1:2-7 (NRSV)

What do you wish was different in your life ?

- We all have a _____ and don't understand the _____.
- God always has a _____ behind the _____.
- I don't have to understand the _____ to trust God in the _____.

Two Questions to Ask When Life Is Hard

1. _____ ?

¹² I want you to know, beloved, that **what has happened to me** has actually helped to spread the

gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ; ¹⁴ and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear.

Philippians 1:12-14 (NRSV)

2. _____ ?

¹⁵ Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from goodwill. ¹⁶ These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; ¹⁷ the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true; and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice.

Philippians 1:15-18 (NRSV)

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

Philippians 1:21 (NRSV)

My Next Step Today Is To...

- Trust God with my life as I surrender the "whys" to him and just ask that he'll help me know the "now what".
- Ask God to help me recognize what doesn't matter so that I can focus on what does matter.
- Thank God for all the times He has take the obstacles of my life and turned them into opportunities.
- Meditate and/or memorize Philippians 1:21