

5. Paul rejoiced in the gospel's advancement, even when Christ was being preached out of wrong motives. How does this perspective help us to pray for the gospel's advance even while Christ is being proclaimed through mixed motives and different approaches?

**Digging Deeper (for further study):**

6. Some could look at Paul's example and think he was making light of his perilous circumstances. Did Paul have a misguided view of suffering? How can we explain his rejoicing in such difficult circumstances?

Take time to consider Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. How does this text help us see Paul's view of suffering, and his joy in all circumstances, through the lens of the gospel and the message of the cross?

**Gospel Progress, God's Way**  
**Philippians 1:12-18a**  
*January 18, 2015*

1. Hard circumstances still bring gospel progress (v. 12-14)

✧ Measuring progress...

✧ They have all heard...

✧ The effect on other believers...

2. Different motives still result in one gospel preached (v. 15-17)

✧ Wrong motives...

✧ Right motives...

3. We rejoice in *all* gospel proclamation (v. 18a)

✧ Different approaches, one result...

✧ Joy's focal point...

### **Message-Based Discussion Questions**

1. As you reflect on the message, what was one observation, application, or insight that stood out to you?

2. Read Philippians 1:12-18 (the text from the message). How can Paul say that gospel progress is happening in light of his present circumstances?

When have you personally witnessed God using negative circumstances to make progress for the gospel?

What does this tell us about how God might be working in our own lives and those around us to make progress for the gospel? How does it affect our goals and focus?

3. How does Paul's attitude impact the believers he is working alongside in sharing the gospel (see especially verse 14)?

How have you personally been encouraged or spurred along by the boldness of others in sharing the gospel?

Consider what it looks like for you to share or live out the gospel in the midst of difficult circumstances. How does your own attitude tend to either build up or take away confidence in the gospel for the people observing you?

### **Practicing It Together:**

4. How can we, as a community of believers together, live out and apply our answers from those questions above? Consider specific examples and your plan of action.