

Romans 8:28-29: “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (v.29) For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son...”

❖ _____ the _____ of God.

Genesis 45:5: “And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.”

Genesis 50:20: “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”

LESSON #2: _____ God _____ in your Prison.

Philippians 1:18-19: “But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, (v.19) for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.”

Acts 16:23-25: “After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. (v.24) Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. (v.25) About midnight

Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.”

THE TRUTH ABOUT PRAISE

- ❖ Praise is a _____.
- ❖ Praise is something that can never be _____ from you.

I've GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY!!!

1:4 “I always pray with joy...”

1:18 “And because of this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice...”

1:25-26 “and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.”

2:2 “then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose”

2:17-19 “But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. So you too should be glad and rejoice with me. I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you.”

3:1 “Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord!”

4:1 “my joy and crown...”

4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

4:10 “I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me.”

**LESSON #3: Try to _____
_____ in your Prison.**

Philippians 1:20-26: “I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. (v.21) For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (v.22) If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! (v.23) I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; (v.24) but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. (v.25) Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, (v.26) so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

Are you imprisoned by the circumstances of your life? Is there a circumstance that keeps you from experiencing joy? Today you can turn your prison into praise?

**Message: “How to Turn Your Prison into Praise”
Pastor Cory Anderson / December 26, 2010**

INTRODUCTION:

How do you turn the prison of life’s circumstances into praise?

**LESSON #1: Look for the _____
of your Prison.**

Philippians 1:12-18: “Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. (v.13) As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. (v.14) Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly. (v.15) It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. (v.16) The latter do so in love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.”

**WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I CAN’T SEE
THE PURPOSE OF MY PRISON?**

❖ _____ the _____ of God.

Romans 8:28: “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

❖ _____ the _____ of God.