

**“Chains”**  
***Philippians 1:12-18***

**Bonds**

What binds you? Limits you? Steals your attention and energy? Make a list.  
What chains did Paul have? Imprisoned, impoverished, beaten, stoned, left for dead, humiliated, sick, nearly blind, chained to a Roman guard, imminent execution, shipwrecked 3 times, thorn in the flesh, struggled with past failures.

***Acts 21-28***

Samson – Sexual immorality and pride. ***Judges 13-16***

Peter – Brashness, pride, uneducated.

Gideon – Self-esteem and inadequacies. ***Judges 6-8***

Noah – Career shift and alcoholism. ***Genesis 5-9***

Moses – Poor speech and anger issues. ***Exodus***

WHY???

Bonds produce:

Growth - ***Romans 5:3-5***

Joy - ***James 1:2-4***

His strength - ***Hebrews 11:32-40***

**Response**

REJOICING! ***2 Timothy 2:8-13***

3 Reasons to rejoice:

Others will hear – Caesar and the Guard ***Romans 1:8-15***

Other believers encouraged – ***1 Thessalonians 5:1-11***

The Word does not return void – ***Isaiah 55:10-11***

**Application / Notes**

## **Discussion Questions**

What chains Bind you?

How can you better respond to those chains?

How can your chains further God's Kingdom and bring about rejoicing?

## **Homework**

**Read *Philippians 1:19-30***

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What does God's Word say? List the facts.
2. What does God's Word mean? Learn the lessons.
3. What does God's Word mean to me? Listen to His voice.
4. How will I respond to God's Word today? Live it out.

**Identify one specific chain in your life. Pray daily about it, respond different daily to it, and find one way everyday to rejoice in it.**