

“On a Joy Ride: A Trip Through Philippians”

Philippians 2: 1-11

1. What stood out to you from the sermon or scripture passage? What stood out to the younger members of your family who were with you at the service.
2. If possible, ask a child in your life to talk about what JOY is. How is being JOYFUL different from being HAPPY? How can knowing Jesus make us full of joy?
3. In Philippians 2:2, Paul asks us to make his joy complete “by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose” and yet in our homes, in our church, in our community, we do not always agree. What are examples of how we can find joy in unity even in times of disagreement and serious debate? Describe strategies that can help, or have helped, us through these times.
4. Notice how v. 6-11 are in the form of a song that may well have been sung or chanted as a hymn by the early Christians. What can we learn about them and their beliefs from this song? How can this attitude enhance our lives today at home, in our church, in our community, and in our world?
5. Think of the children in your life (young sons and daughters, grand and great- grandchildren, extended family and friends, neighbors.) What can these children teach us about being humble as Paul describes? How can we teach them? Today in worship our children’s choirs sang about joy and hope. (The lyrics to their anthems are posted in the bulletin.) How does their message resonate with what we learn from the sermon?
6. Think about (and stop and visit if you can) the Jesus statue in the courtyard closest to the sanctuary. Children in our church family love this statue and often play around it; adults are often seen stopping as they walk by the windows overlooking the statue. How does this portrayal of Jesus speak to you personally about joy and unity?