

**The Fellowship of Gospel Joy**  
“The Object of Gospel Joy”  
Philippians 3  
Sunday, August 19, 2012

**INTRODUCTION**

**A. The Basis of Gospel Joy (vv.1-11)**

1. In the Lord (**v.1**)
  - a) Joy (rejoicing) is in a person NOT an idea
  - b) Therefore, as obvious is it may sound, we must be “in Him” to rejoice “in Him”
  - c) So, we must know the gospel, but the gospel must not be assumed
  - d) Keep in mind, the gospel has definition
2. The allure of self-righteousness (**vv.2-6**)
  - a) Everyone who believes in a god, believes that god must be appeased
  - b) Promotion of self-satisfaction
  - c) Culmination is worship of self

3. The sufficiency of Christ’s righteousness (**vv.7-11**)
  - a) Satisfaction
  - b) Culmination is the worship of God

**B. The Pursuit of Gospel Joy (vv.12-4:1)**

1. The right direction (**vv.12-16**)
  - a) Know your present state
  - b) Because of grace, go for it...
  - c) Forget what lies behind...
  - d) Be singular in your affection (forget balance), and pursue the goal of the “in the Lord” -- yes, seeing Christ Himself
  - e) What if you actually practiced and loved what you knew of Christ already?
2. The right examples (**vv.17-19**)
  - a) What confidence! But where does it lie? In Christ alone.
  - b) One of the benefits of the local church are examples to aid in your journey
  - c) There are plenty of bad examples, look for the signs

3. The right mindset (**vv.20-21**)
  - a) Citizenship
  
  - b) Longing
  
4. The right context (**4:1**)
  - a) The church
  
  - b) Joy now in the community of transformed lives
  
5. The right end
  - a) Stand firm now
  
  - b) In the Lord (source and objective make for the object of gospel joy)

**C. Application & Implications**

1. Being a part of the local church will help you pursue gospel joy
  
2. Church, are you imitable?
  
3. Seeker, do you thirst for this kind of belonging?