

# PREACHING CURRICULUM



**SERMON TITLE:** Be Selfless

**SCRIPTURE:** Philippians 1:12-18a

*I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.*

## 1 REVIEW THE SERMON

**Read Philippians 1:12-14.** What was Paul's perspective on his own imprisonment?

What benefits and advantages did Paul see in his suffering and imprisonment? How was it possible for Paul to maintain such a positive attitude while he was stuck in jail?

What effect did Paul's example have on other Christians?

How is it possible for suffering and persecution to advance the Gospel?

**Read Philippians 1:15-18.** Why wasn't Paul concerned that others were preaching Christ from a spirit of envy and rivalry, hoping to afflict him while he was in prison?

## 2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

How does Paul's perspective on suffering compare and contrast with our own view of suffering in the modern Western Church? How does it compare with your own personal perspective?

What generally motivates you to serve in ministry? How might you discern what your motives truly are?

## 3 APPLY THE TRUTH

In what ways might we have come to embrace an unbiblical perspective on suffering in our Christian lives? How might we come to embrace the biblical view of suffering, even though it is hard from a human perspective?

How do we root out envy, rivalry, and selfish ambition from our own lives and ministries? What are some positive motivations we should pursue instead?

## 4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

How might adopting a biblical perspective on suffering help you face your own trials and challenges this week?