

Today's Theme

# “Safeguarding Joy”

Series Title

## “Finding Joy In Life” Part 15

November 7, 2021

### What's needed to safeguard my joy?

#### 1. **Beware of those who would steal our joy.**

Phil 3:1 Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.

##### These folks are often known as legalists

(1) They tend to *attack* others regularly.

Phil 3:2 Watch out for those dogs, . .

(2) They live to be *seen* by others.

Phil 3:2 Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, . .

(3) They teach *tradition* over following Jesus.

Philippians 3:2 . . . those mutilators of the flesh.

#### 2. **Stay true to the foundation of your joy.**

(1) We *believe in Jesus* & *live* by God's spirit.

Phil 3:3 For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, . . .

(2) Live constantly *grateful* for what Jesus has done.

Phil 3:3 . . . who boast in Christ Jesus, . . .

(3) Depend on God's *grace* over *human* effort.

Phil 3:3 . . . and who put no confidence in the flesh—

#### 3. **Don't be sidetracked by religious activity.**

(1) Trying to find strength in *religious* ritual.

Phil 3:4 though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more:

(2) Leaning on family *heritage*.

Phil 3:5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews;

(3) Depending on bible *knowledge* alone.

Phil 3:5 . . . in regard to the law, a Pharisee;

(4) Seeing personal *zeal* & *sincerity* as everything.

Phil 3:6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; . . .

(5) Assuming good *works* are enough.

Phil 3:6 . . . as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

#### Paul Is Saying Watch Out:

Col 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces[a] of this world rather than on Christ.