

Because of My Chains

[what has happened to me]
Philippians 1.12-14

What do you know about Paul's situation? What emotions would you be experiencing?

Chains

What does Paul say his imprisonment is accomplishing? What should his imprisonment have done?

God knows
Hebrews 2.17-18

What kinds of chains do you experience in your life?

Hebrews 5.15

Going Deeper—Living it Out

How do you usually respond to the chains? Why?

God redeems
2 Corinthians 4.6-12

Is it possible that we "suffer" so much in our sufferings because of our self-centeredness, etc.? Explain.

2 Corinthians 6.4-10

Is suffering actually central to what it means to be a Christian? Explain.

2 Corinthians 12.7-10

Read John 16.33. How is that supposed to be encouraging?

How does God use suffering to bring redemption?

[putting it together]
Not victims

Does it help to know that God knows what it's like to suffer?

Grace thrives in adversity

Why can't we as Christians play the victim card?

The Gospel thrives in adversity

What is your approach/response to adversity? What needs to change and how?

Because

[big questions]
What are your chains?

How are you responding to the chains? What does that reveal about what you believe?

How might God want to use your chains to advance the Gospel?

Philippians: Companions in Grace

Going Deeper—Living it Out

MEMORIZE THIS!

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong
-2 Corinthians 12.9-10 (NIV)