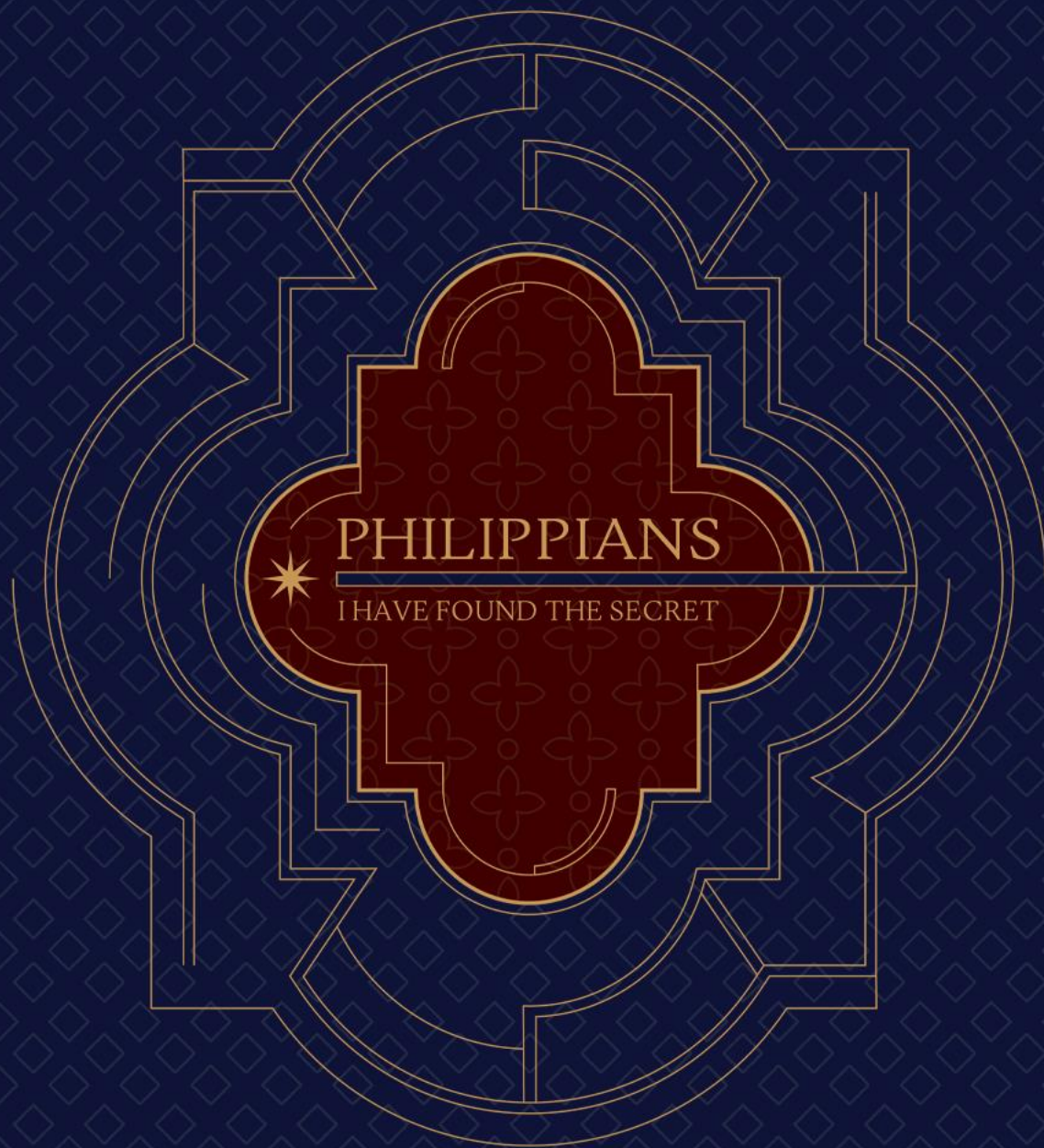




When Plans Fall Apart

Philippians 1:12-18a

How do you react when everything you
planned falls apart?



Romans 15:23-24

But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while.



Paul's dream

- Plant churches



Paul's dream

- Plant churches
- Visit Rome



Paul's dream

- Plant churches
- Visit Rome
- Enjoy their company



Paul's dream

- Plant churches
- Visit Rome
- Enjoy their company
- Launch a mission to Spain



Four Years Later...

- False accusations in Jerusalem



Four Years Later...

- False accusations in Jerusalem
- Two years imprisoned in Caesarea



Four Years Later...

- False accusations in Jerusalem
- Two years imprisoned in Caesarea
- Shipwrecked on the way to Rome



Four Years Later...

- False accusations in Jerusalem
- Two years imprisoned in Caesarea
- Shipwrecked on the way to Rome
- A prisoner in Rome



Acts 28:16, 20, 30

And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.

...I am wearing this chain

He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him,



If death couldn't keep Jesus in the grave, then
nothing can stop the gospel from advancing.



Philippians 1:12

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



Philippians 1:12-13

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.



Paul could have said "I'm chained to these guards." Instead he realized: "They're chained to me."



Philippians 4:22

All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.



Philippians 1:14

And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.



2 Timothy 2:8-9

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!



Philippians 1:15-17

Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment.



Philippians 1:15-17

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Philippians 1:15-18

Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.



Philippians 1:18

What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.



Three things to remember:

- God can make success out of what seems like disaster



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- If death couldn't keep Jesus in the grave, nothing can stop the gospel message



Three things to remember:

- God can make success out of what seems like disaster
- If death couldn't keep Jesus in the grave, nothing can stop the gospel message
- Christianity thrives when opposition comes



What would change in your life this week if
you believed your circumstances might be
something God can use?

