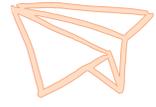
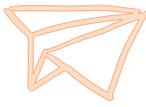


03
05
20

gospel joy



12 Brothers and sisters, here is what I want you to know. What has happened to me has actually helped to spread the good news.
13 One thing has become clear. I am being held by chains because I am a witness for Christ. All the palace guards and everyone else know it.
14 And because I am a prisoner, most of the believers have become bolder in the Lord. They now dare even more to preach the good news without fear.
15 It's true that some preach about Christ because they are jealous. But others preach about Christ to help me in my work.
16 The last group acts out of love. They know I have been put here to be a witness for the good news.
17 But the others preach about Christ only to get ahead. They preach Christ for the wrong reasons. They think they can stir up trouble for me while I am being held by chains.
18 But what does it matter? Here is the important thing. Whether for right or wrong reasons, Christ is being preached about. That makes me very glad.

// Philippians 1:12-18, NIRV

discussion questions

- Read these verses out loud, or get a parent to read them with you!
- Paul is the man who wrote this letter to some of his friends who lived in Philippi. Where is he writing this letter from? (Hint: take a look at verses 13 and 14 if you need help!)
- What does it mean to be a prisoner? Do you think it was fair that Paul was in prison, just because he spoke about Jesus?
- Think of a time that you felt you had been treated unfairly. What was your attitude in that time? How did you speak to others? How did you feel?
- Paul says at the end of these verses that, even though he had been treated very unfairly, it all "makes me very glad". Think of a few words that mean the same thing as glad, and write them here:

activity

What is the gospel? Practice explaining it to your parents.

Draw a picture celebrating how Jesus gives you joy!

Spread Jesus' joy by saying a few kind things to the people around you today.



application

Often, when we are treated unfairly, we speak to others in unkind and mean ways. But when Paul was treated unfairly, he chose joy and spoke to others about Jesus, instead! For Paul, the gospel was more important than the fact that he was being treated unfairly.