

## When Opposition Becomes Opportunity

PASTOR MIKE YODER • PHILIPPIANS 1:12-26

PHILIPPIANS *Transcendent Joy*



### WARM UP

What is something new that you have tried or experienced recently?

### COMING UP

[GRACEPOLARIS.ORG/CALENDAR](https://gracepolaris.org/calendar)

**Membership Class** Sunday, October 10, 4:00 p.m., MC 3. To RSVP, visit [GracePolaris.org/Membership](https://gracepolaris.org/membership) or text "Membership" to 614-888-7733.

**Brunch With Tom & MaryAnn Barlow** Saturday, October 23, 9:30 a.m., MC3-4. Global Workers Tom & MaryAnn Barlow will join us in person for a special brunch where they will share details of their ministry in Birmingham, England. To cover the cost of food a \$5.00 fee will be charged.

**Baptism** Sunday, October 31, During Worship Services. Learn more and register by Sunday, October 17, at [GracePolaris.org/Baptism](https://gracepolaris.org/baptism) or text "Baptism" to 614-888-7733.

### WITNESS

- Who are the people in your sphere of influence you're praying will come to know Jesus? Share any progress or updates.
- Pray together for God to use you and your Grace Group to influence these people for Jesus.

### EXPLORE

- 1 Recount a time in your life when something looked like a terrible reality but actually turned out to be a great blessing in disguise?
- 2 Being in prison was a harsh reality for Paul. What are the biggest obstacles you face in life — circumstances that you wish would be different?
- 3 What role did Paul have to play for the "whole palace guard" to hear that he was in chains for Christ (13)? How else could the guards have interpreted Paul's negative circumstances?
- 4 How do you react to the negative circumstances of your life? To what cause or what purpose do you attribute them? Do people see Jesus in your responses?
- 5 Courage is contagious. Describe a time you witnessed or participated in contagious courage. How is Gospel witness like that (14)?
- 6 Sometimes people do the right thing with the wrong motive and God uses it for great good anyway (15-17). How have you seen this in your life? For Paul, does the end justify the means — Gospel proclamation no matter the motive or means? Explain (18).
- 7 How would you summarize Paul's reflections in vs. 19-24? What drives Paul's perspective on life and death? For whose spiritual blessing does God have you "in the body" (24)?

### PRAY

Re-read Philippians chapter 1 and ask God to help you use the opposition you face in your life for Gospel opportunity.