

MEADOWBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship This Sunday

September 6, 2020 ~ 9:00 AM

In our Sanctuary (please wear a mask)

or

Outside Parking Area

Services on YouTube

meadowbrookbaptist.cc

From Preacher Bob

I hope you are all well and stay that way. I look forward to the day when we can all worship together. I hope you will read the lessons from Philippians carefully and prayerfully. There is no better Bible Book for Christians in America right now.

Philippians actually tells us to “be joyful” (3:1). God wants you and me to be happy because we are His children, He loves.

But He also wants it, because of our influence on others. Sad, whiny, pessimistic Christians will not draw people to Jesus.

From Vance Havner

There are three kinds of churches - those who are fighting; those who are about to start fighting and those who are licking their wounds.

Some churches are so cold you can ice skate down the aisles.

Too many churches begin at eleven o'clock sharp and end at twelve o'clock dull.

When new Christians join the Church, they usually have to backslide to get in fellowship with the rest of the members.

A church that puts praise above preaching the Bible, needs to remember; that the liveliest thing in a barnyard is a chicken with its head cut off - but it's still dead.

When God called Elijah to preach, He told him he wouldn't have social security; but he would have eternal security. And He added, “The benefits are out of this world.”

PHILIPPIANS – THE JOY BOOK

JOY IN PRISONS

(Philippians 1:1-4)

Prison In the AD 50's, while Paul was probably in his fifties; he had everything he needed to make him miserable, and everyone around him. He was in prison (Acts 28).

He had been dragged across the world in chains like an animal for two years. He was under house arrest in Rome (Acts 28); and chained day and night to two Roman soldiers. We can only imagine the insults and abuses he received from them.

He was awaiting trial before the mad-man, Emperor Nero; who, in a few years, would burn Christians alive in his garden for the fun of it. The charge was inciting a riot, a crime punishable by death (Acts 21:27–22:29). For Paul, a Roman citizen, that meant beheading.

On top of all this, jealous preachers were criticizing him (1:15-17). And if this wasn't enough, a few years earlier; he had developed some kind of chronic pain, he called a “thorn” that “tortured” him (2 Corinthians 12).

Praise During this time, he wrote a letter to a small group of Christians in a church, he had founded around ten years earlier (Acts 16). It was in Philippi, 150 miles NE of Athens.

They were going through some hard times also. Earlier, in Corinth, trying to raise money for hungry Christians in Jerusalem; Paul used them as an example of giving. They had sent an offering to him for the food, and he said:

“Out of great afflictions and extreme poverty their love overflowed with generosity.”

(2 Corinthians 8:2)

He didn't write to complain about conditions in prison. He wrote to tell them how happy he was. This letter is the most joy-filled Book in the Bible. In its four little chapters, the term “joy” is found more times than in any other Bible Book.