

Part 43 | **Never Stop Growing**

Acts 18:24-19:10

Keep seeking to **GROW** (18:24-28)

in knowing Jesus Philippians 3:10-4:1; Ephesians 4:13, 3:14-19, Galatians 4:8-9; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:9; John 17:3

 **receiving from others** Proverbs 9:9; 2 Timothy 2:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:11

and share the **GOOD NEWS** (18:25-28)


with each other

 **with those far from God**

knowing **GOD** has to work for **GROWTH** to happen. (19:1-10)

in others John 6:44; 1 Corinthians 3:6ff

in you! Psalm 119:18

 Text us at **833-271-8805**.
Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "**Pray for...**" followed by your request.
Or if you just need someone to talk to, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.

Gospel Conversations

Part of our **Enduring Reach** vision is:

By 2030 the people of Wawasee Bible will engage in 10,000 Gospel Conversations

So what is a "Gospel Conversation"?

First of all, by 10,000 we do not mean 10,000 people, but *conversations*.

A Gospel Conversation is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with someone in need of knowing of his love and grace.

A conversation that points to Jesus as the hero and gives testimony to his grace, as well as our own need for it, counts as a Gospel Conversation.

Here's three (of many!) types of Gospel Conversations:

1. I share with someone what Jesus is doing in my life *today*. Maybe something good, maybe bringing me through a hard time, maybe a point from Sunday's message that hit me, etc.
2. I share with someone my story of putting my faith in Christ.
3. I share the truth of the Gospel, and encourage them to believe it themselves.

Remember the key is to love. **We're loved by Jesus, and so we're sent by Jesus to love others and invite them to follow him with us.**

We'll share more soon, including some ideas to help you spark Gospel Conversations with the people God has sent *you* to!

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

Food for Thought Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? – Normally this section includes questions and a study for our Life Groups. If you're not in one, you should sign up in the Commons, let us know on a Connect Card, or contact the church office! Most groups break for the summer, but others will continue and use this for their study time together. Instead of our normal study guide, this is a smaller study and some questions for you to reflect/journal on throughout the week. Look for sign-ups for new groups in January!

Food for Thought...

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, *was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

Sometimes when we want God to give clear guidance, give us power to overcome an incredible difficulty or open a door of opportunity, it can seem like he doesn't come through. The Apostle Paul found himself in similar situations. He asked God multiple times for a miracle to remove his "thorn in the flesh," (2 Corinthians 1:3-10) but God said no. He also finds himself on house arrest, restricted from going out to share the Gospel the way you might think God would want (Acts 28). Yet, Paul managed to still thrive even in incredibly difficult circumstances without getting the miracle he hoped for.

This week we're going to dive into the book of **Philippians** to help us understand how Paul was able to do this. Look up the verses below, and as you read them, imagine Paul writing these words to you. Jot down what Paul is saying and how it can give you hope even when you are not seeing miracles happen or life is seemingly not going the way you planned or want.

Philippians 1:6

Philippians 1:9-10

Philippians 1:12-14

Philippians 1:27-30

Philippians 2:12-16

(Food for Thought continues on back panel...)

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR CORE VALUES

These are things you'll see to be true about us...



1. It's All About Jesus!

You'll hear us say this often.—Why? Because *it's all about Jesus!* Apart from his death, burial, and resurrection we're wasting our time.



2. God Wrote it All Down

God wrote a book—and we are to believe the Bible in all that it teaches, obey it in all it requires, and trust it in all that it promises.



3. All People Matter

No matter who you are, where you're from, what you've done, or what's been done to you—you *matter to Jesus and you matter to us!*



4. We All Need Friends

You were designed to belong, not to go through life alone. Jesus created each of us desiring friendship and to live in community.



5. No Sacred Cows

Jesus is sacred, God's Word is sacred, *but our opinions, methods, and traditions are not*—we'll let go of any of them if more people can experience life change through the Gospel!

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 18:24-26 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

²⁴ Now a Jew **named Apollos**, a **native of Alexandria**, came to **Ephesus**. He was an **eloquent** man, **competent** in the **Scriptures**. ²⁵ He had **been instructed** in the way of the **Lord**. And **being fervent in spirit**, he **spoke** and **taught accurately** the **things** **concerning Jesus**, **though he knew** **only the baptism of John**. ²⁶ He **began to speak** **boldly** in the **synagogue**, but when **Priscilla** and **Aquila** heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more **accurately**.

C C N K B O L D L Y R V C K L
T U A Q U I L A P O L L O S O
T O T F C C E L O Q U E N T R
X Q I E R K N E W C P P C Q D
A K V R I N S T R U C T E D R
L S E V O N L Y T H E A R D Y
E P H E S U S P I R I T N K Y
X O R N C A M E L H B E I N G
A K S T R C O M P E T E N T Q
N E P R I S C I L L A E G H V
D H E H P K D J E S U S J O C
R B A P T I S M B E G A N U R
I V K I U R D K K T H I N G S
A C C U R A T E L Y T J O H N
A N A M E D V T C D F B E E N
U S I N S Y N A G O G U E S F

Food for Thought *(continued)*

Philippians 3:7-8

Philippians 4:4-7

Philippians 4:8-9

- Which three passages above are most helpful to you?

When life is difficult and it seems we're not getting the help or guidance we need from God, we can fall into the trap of thinking we have to be positive in order to show we're remaining faithful. **Psalm 73** shows how we can be real about what's going on and what we think in the midst of a tough situation and still remain faithful. **Look and read Psalm 73**. As you read it, jot down the thoughts and emotions Asaph, the writer, is speaking about, then answer the questions below.

- Which thoughts/emotions from Psalm 73 do you relate to most? Least?

- Have you ever found yourself in a similar conversation with God? If so, explain.

- Can you think of any reasons why being honest with God about what's really going on could be better than just putting on a positive face?

- How could you balance this with Philippians 4:4?
⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"

This week's Food for Thought is adapted in part from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, January 7, 2024



PART 43

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ACTS 18:24-19:10



We're Glad You're Here Today!

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<https://wawasee.today>