

Aveleigh's 2017 THE HAPPINESS PROJECT Week 1
YOUR YEAR OF WORSHIP
Sunday Sept 10, 2017
Sermon: HAPPINESS BEGINS WITH RELATIONSHIPS
Responsive Lesson, Proverbs 15:6- 13 p. 694
Philippians 1:1-11 p. 1259

INTRO, HOW CHRIST BUILDS HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS IN YOU.....

1. BE GRATEFUL FOR THE PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God." Phil. 1:3 (NLT)

"I thank God for the help you gave me..." Phil. 1:5 (NCV)

HH: (Happiness Hint) Remember the best and forget the rest!

2. PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE

"I always pray for you, and I make my requests with a heart full of joy..." Phil. 1:4 (NLT)

HH: The quickest way to change a bad relationship to a good one, start praying for them!

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God." Phil. 1: 9-11 (NIV)

Pray they will ...

• **FIRST, PRAY THEY WILL GROW IN LOVE.**

"that your love will grow more and more..." vs. 9 (NCV)

• **SECOND, PRAY THAT THEY WILL MAKE WISE CHOICES.**

"that you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices." vs. 9b-10a (CEV)

• **THIRD PRAY THEY WILL LIVE WITH INTEGRITY.**

"that you may live pure and blameless lives until Christ returns." vs. 10b (NLT)

• **FOURTH PRAY THAT THEY WILL BECOME LIKE JESUS.**

“that you will be filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.” vs. 11 (NIV)

“The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Gal.5:22-23

3. EXPECT THE BEST FROM PEOPLE IN MY LIFE.

“I am confident of this, that God who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Phil. 1:6

- HOW?**
1. Paul believed in people. He says “I am confident
 2. Paul gave people vision.
 3. Paul was patient with other’s progress.

HH: Celebrate how far people have, avoid judging them for how much they still have to go.

*It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart.”
Phil. 1:7 (NIV)*

4. LOVE THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE AS CHRIST LOVES YOU

“God is my witness that I tell the truth when I say that my deep love for you all comes from the heart of Christ Jesus himself.” Phil. 1:8 (TEV)

“This is how we know what real love is: Christ gave his life for us. So we then, ought to give our lives for others.” 1 John 3:16 (TEV)

PRAYER, Heavenly father, we offer this prayer for the people in our lives. We ask that they will grow in love. That they will make wise choices, that they will live with integrity and that they will become like Jesus. We ask in the name of Christ for your gift of happiness. Amen.

- FOUR FOR THE FOAD:**
1. Describe how happy feels to you?
 2. Does healthy relationships have any influence over your happiness?
 3. How do you pray for others?
 4. What is your source of happiness?

Aveleigh's 2017 THE HAPPINESS PROJECT Week1
YOUR YEAR OF WORSHIP
Sunday Sept, 2017
Sermon: HAPPINESS BEGINS WITH RELATIONSHIPS
Responsive Lesson, Proverbs 15:6- 13 p. 694
Philippians 1:1-11 p. 1259

Call to worship

LEADER. Worry, fear, pain and loss cloud our vision and veil our sight,
PEOPLE, O Lord, causing us to miss the joy of your Word.
LEADER, By the power of your Spirit, lift our burdens,
PEOPLE, pierce us with your good news,
LEADER, that we might experience Your gift of happiness.

Prayer of confession

Gracious and most merciful God, all of us here know how to build walls. We work hard at walling off ourselves: from our families and friends, from new opportunities to do your work in the world, even from those with whom we choose to worship. Our walls are sturdy -- we use lots of brick and mortar. We hope that if we pack them tight enough they will protect us and we won't get hurt. We don't trust that you are with us to guide us over and through the walls of darkness and mistrust. Help us, O God, to stop building walls that divide us and to have the faith to be a stone in your wall of love. Help us to learn to live together, to rely on each other and to trust others in the wall we know as the Church of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Initial draft Pastoral prayer mitch uses I put this here to help me remember 3 weeks later

Please help me to rest in your happiness, To allow a smile to linger on my lips,
To dwell within a wonderful memory, To walk back through sunlit places.
Please help me to awake with hope, To engage with life in all its variety,
To take in the beauty of others joys, o touch the souls of those I meet with thankfulness.
Please help me to sing with faith, To carry the truth close in my heart always,
To rejoice at new life and To have peace as I age.
Please help me to indulge in love, To breathe in the sweetness of intimacy,
To taste the kindness of friendship, To feel the warmth of embrace.

And drink in the great happiness of life.

Amen.