



sermon notes

"THE BEST OF BAD CIRCUMSTANCES"

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Pastor Todd Schlechty

CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/SERMONS

For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.
Philippians 1:6 (NASB)

Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel...
Philippians 1:12 (NASB)

Three Good Results of Bad Circumstances in the Believer's Life:

I. Bad circumstances _____.

Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else...
Philippians 1:12–13 (NASB)

II. Bad circumstances _____.

...and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear. Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will; the latter do it out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice...
Philippians 1:14–18 (NASB)

III. Bad circumstances _____.

...for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose.
Philippians 1:19–22 (NASB)

The Best Response to Bad Circumstances:

Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; in no way alarmed by your opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God. For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.
Philippians 1:27–30 (NASB)

In Bad Circumstances:

1. _____ Philippians 1:27
2. _____ Philippians 1:27
3. _____ Philippians 1:28

Point: _____.



DOGGY BAG

Something to take home and chew on!

1. When have you experienced bad circumstances in life that turn out for your good? Where have you seen Christ and His grace in these circumstances?
2. When have you ever seen your bad circumstances amplify your witness to Christ? What were the circumstances? How was the message of grace amplified?
3. When have you seen bad circumstances inspire other people to step up in their work and witness for Christ?
4. Do you know that Christ will deliver you through any circumstance you face in life? What difference does that confidence make in your life, or what difference could that confidence make in your life?
5. Are you ready to say, "Whatever Christ wants in my life or death, I'm good with that?" What would it take to bring you to that type of surrender to Christ's will? What would change in your life if you lived with that type of trust in your life? Your finances? Your relationships? Your vocation? Your health?

Suggestion: Join a small group and find other people you can encourage, and who can encourage you as you go through tough circumstances in life. Contact Pam at pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org for help forming or connecting with a small group.

Don't forget to check out our bulletin this week: <https://conta.cc/3ceMSpo>

ANSWER KEY:

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| I. Bad circumstances <u>AMPLIFY</u>
<u>CHRIST'S GOOD NEWS.</u> | II. <u>...ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO STEP</u>
<u>UP AND SPEAK OUT.</u> | III. <u>...REMIND US TO LOOK TO GOD</u>
<u>FOR DELIVERANCE.</u> |
| 1. <u>KEEP LIVING RIGHT.</u> | 2. <u>STAND FIRM IN UNITY.</u> | 3. <u>DON'T LET THEM GET TO YOU.</u> |

POINT: **YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CAN'T KEEP YOU FROM EVERYTHING GOD HAS FOR YOU.**