**Sermon Based Small Group: Philippians 1:12-30**

**Unstoppable**

**Introduction**

* My mom taught me many lessons. One was the power of perseverance. Keep going and keep trying. If it is important, do not give up.
* Think about a lesson your mom taught you. Share it with the group.

**Reviewing the Teaching**

* What stood out to you as a potentially significant takeaway in this week’s teaching?
  + Why did it stand out?
  + How does it relate to you in your life situation now?
* Here is a broad outline of Pastor Dave’s sermon:
  + Unlimited Gospel Potential (comes from)
    - Advancing the Gospel
    - Putting the Gospel First
    - Work Together for the Gospel
  + How would answer the question, “What am I doing here?” Would your mom be impressed? Who should be impressed?
  + Verses 19-26 describe Putting the Gospel First. Make a list of ways that Paul did that in these verses. How would you describe what he did?
  + What does it mean to walk in a manner worthy of the Gospel (v. 27)? What kind of things do we bicker about? Why? They must be important or we would not worry about them. Why do we make them important? What happens when we work together?
  + What did you think about Socrates comments about brutes, women and barbarians (or Gentiles, women and slaves)? Philippi was a great church. Who did God use to start it (Acts 16)?

**Digging Deeper**

* Unlimited Gospel Potential means that you put the Gospel first. Read verse 14. What does Paul say about courage? Where does courage fit into the Gospel?
* Verses 29 and 30 finish with this same idea. Have you ever suffered for your faith?
* How does Paul describe his own courage and suffering? What gave him courage? What came out of his courageous actions?
* How do Paul’s words in verses 1 to 11 encourage you to be courageous? What was it that made Paul courageous?

**Applying it to Life**

* What does it mean to include people? It’s one thing to be asked to the party. It’s another thing to be asked to dance. What was your experience? When did someone you did not know ask you to “dance” at church? How did you feel? What part was awkward? Did something good come from it?
* How did you feel about Pastor Dave’s illustration of Kyle in a Mexican prison? Was it surprising to think about him saying how great it was to be in prison? How do we have to shift our thinking to be able to respond like this? What does it say about our limits and God’s limitlessness? How about our failures: what can God do with our failures?
* Pastor Dave had an interesting comment, “Money may make a good servant, but it makes a terrible master.” What did you think about this? When is money a servant … or a master?

**Prayer**

* Pray for courage. Fear is one of our limits. Ask God to take that limit away.
* Part of our theme: Invite, Include, Invest is Include. How can you “include” people this week? Pray for people you have not met yet. Ask God to help you love them enough to include them. Even if including only means to welcome them.