Philippians 1:12-14 *Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. [13] As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. [14] Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.*

**** Now if I were trying to reach the Roman empire with the Gospel. I would not put my number one missionary in Jail. Paul traveled all over the ancient world and everywhere he went people were saved and churches were started. Yet as he writes to the Christians in Philippi he tells them not to worry about his being in prison. That in actual fact God was reaching all of the palace guard (those who worked for Cesar) because he was in prison. What an amazing attitude. It would have been so easy for Paul to sit there and complain to God about how he could not do his ministry because he was locked up. Instead Paul began reaching out to his jailers and many heard the message. Paul's attitude while in prison also gave the Christians who were free courage to be bold in their witness and to speak courageously for God. God ALWAYS knows what He is doing.

PRAYER: Lord, help me to take whatever situation I'm in and to seek to use it in a way that advances Your Kingdom and brings You honor. Help me not to be discourage by the things I see as set backs but to trust You to use absolutely everything to bring about Your Plan.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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