

Philippi



The born of Philippians

- Second missionary journey with Silas
- First church in Europe
- Lydia, the purple goods seller was the first believer
- Jailer believed in Christ



The Letter

- AD 62 Paul wrote from a prison in Rome
- Philippians sent the gift for Paul with Epaphroditus
- Healthy congregation
- The book of joy emphasizes the joy of christian life
- The concept of rejoicing or joy appears 16 times
- Christian faith and spiritual maturity



What is Joy?

- Joy depends on Christ, not depends on happenings, from inside
- Happiness depends on happenings, from outside



1. Joy in Suffering for Christ

- *Phi 1:21*

For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain.



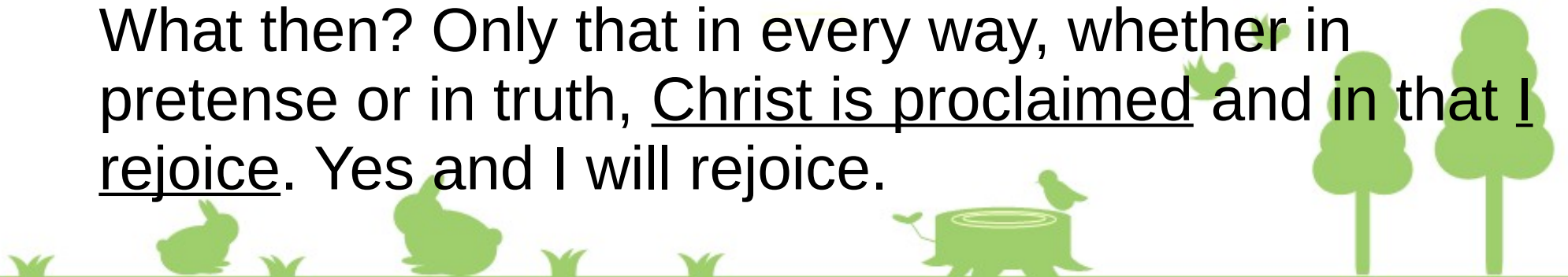
1. Joy in Suffering for Christ

- Phi 1:12-13

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

- Phi 1:18

What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed and in that I rejoice. Yes and I will rejoice.



1. Joy in Suffering for Christ

- Phi 1:14

And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

- Phi 1:29

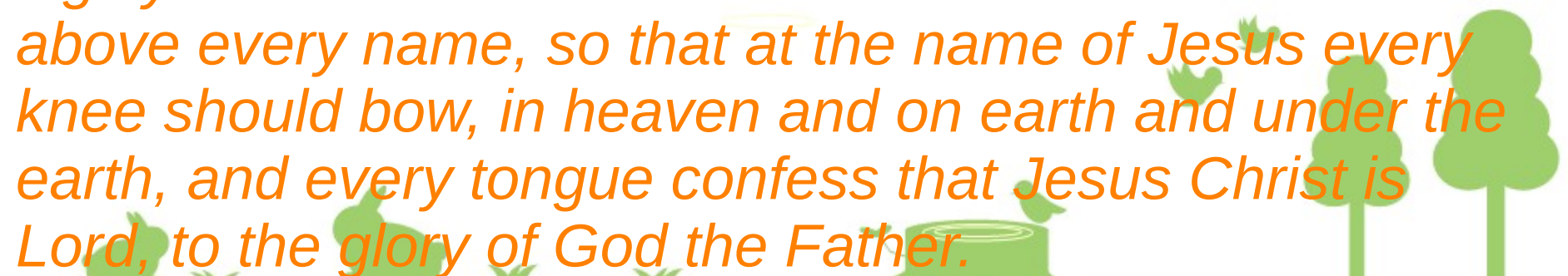
For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake



2. Joy in Serving God

- *Phi 2:5-11*

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



2. Joy in Serving God

- Phi 2:4

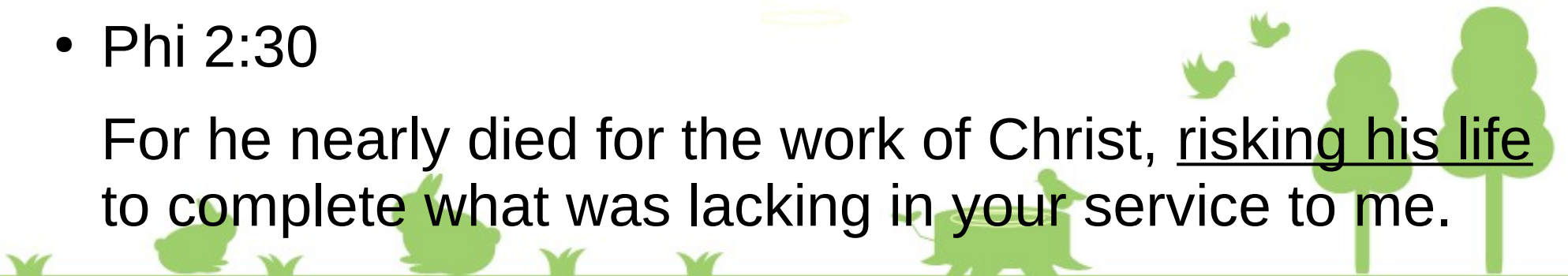
Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

- Phi 2:21-22

For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

- Phi 2:30

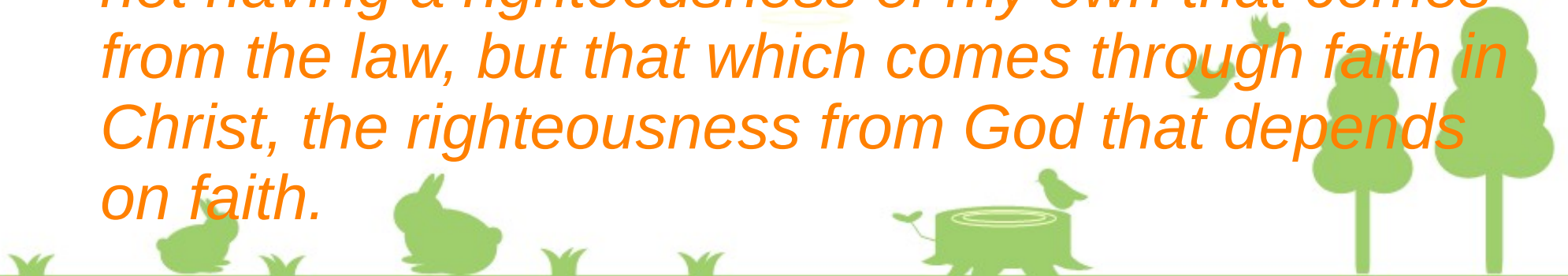
For he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.



3. Joy in Knowing Christ

- *Phi 3:7-9*

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake for Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.



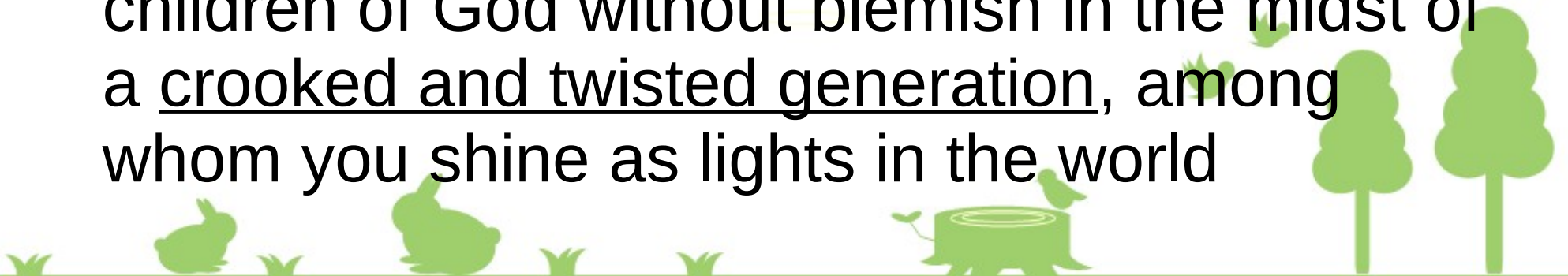
3. Joy in Knowing Christ

- Phi 3:19

Their end is destruction, their god is their belly and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things

- Phi 2:15

that you may be blameless and innocent children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world



4. Joy in Trusting God

- *Phi 4:4*

*Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say,
Rejoice.*



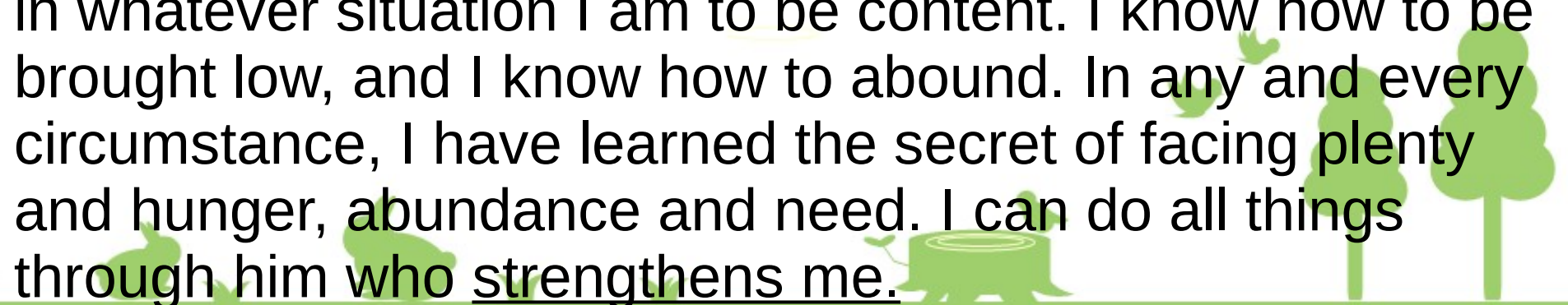
4. Joy in Trusting God

- Phi 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made know to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Phi 4:11-13

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.



Spiritual Maturity

- Someone who has:

Joy in suffering for God – no fear, selfless

Joy in serving God – humble, self sacrifice

Joy in knowing God – love the truth

Joy in trusting God – joyful, content



JOY

- J = Jesus
- O = Others
- Y = Yourself



Time to reflect

- How about you? Do you have joy in these 4 Joys? Which christian character below that you still need to nurture?

Joy in suffering for God – no fear, selfless

Joy in serving God – humble, self sacrifice

Joy in knowing God – love the truth

Joy in trusting God – joyful, content

