



# The Drain

Philippians 1: 12-20

***Spiritual maturity can be measured by what it takes to drain your joy.***

1. Difficult \_\_\_\_\_ can drain our joy.

“It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else’s foundation.” Romans 15:20 (NIV84)

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” *Ephesians 6:12 (NIV84)*

2. Difficult \_\_\_\_\_ can drain our joy.

“A fool shows his annoyance at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult.”  
*Proverbs 12:16 (NIV84)*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ of the future can drain our joy.

“Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!” *Habakkuk 3:17–18 (NLT)*

“Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.” Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.”  
*James 4:13–14 (NASB95)*