

# 20240225 HOW TO BE JOYFUL ALWAYS

Philippians 1:12-26

## Key Verse

<sup>18</sup> ...I rejoice... and I will continue to rejoice.

## THE 4 ESSENTIALS FOR JOYFUL LIVING

### I. I NEED A PERSPECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ (vv12-14)

Paul's view of his circumstances: In all things God works!

<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.

When I face problems joyfully:

- It promotes the gospel. (v13)
- It encourages the believers. (v14)

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in ALL things God works for the good of those who love Him... **Romans 8:28**

**LESSON: God has a purpose behind every one of my problems.**

### II. I NEED A PRIORITY \_\_\_\_\_ (vv15-18)

Paul's response to his critics: So what does it matter?

<sup>18</sup> But what does it matter? THE IMPORTANT THING is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

<sup>6</sup> In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success. **Proverbs 3:6 LB**

**LESSON: Focus on what really counts.**

### III. I NEED A POWER \_\_\_\_\_ (vv19-20)

Paul's source of strength: Prayers of other people and the help of God's Spirit

<sup>19-20</sup> ...I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed...

<sup>13</sup> I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me. **Phil. 4:13 GN**

**LESSON: With God's power, nothing can devastate me.**

### IV. I NEED A PURPOSE \_\_\_\_\_ (vv20-26)

Paul's reason for living: Christ and His cause

<sup>21</sup> For me to live is Christ and to die is gain.

<sup>13-14</sup> Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. **Phil. 3:13-14**

Paul's concern: To die to be with Christ, yet to live for helping others' spiritual growth (vv22-26)

**LESSON: Jesus first, Others second, Yourself third.**

## THINK AND SHARE (Group Discussion)

1. Do you have God's perspective on your problem?
2. Have you settled the issue of what is really important in your life? <sup>33</sup> **Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these other things will be added unto you. Matt 6:33**
3. Have you been trying to live solely on your own power to solve your problems and pressures in your life?
4. Can you sum up the purpose of your life in a single sentence?

**For me to live is \_\_\_\_\_.**

1. To live from; 2. To live by; 3. To live on; 4. To live for