

Reasons For Rejoicing!
Philippians 1:12-26

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1. One of the greatest needs we have as individuals, as a church, and as a nation is to be happy.
 2. There are at least two basic places one looks to for happiness.
 - a. Many believe that our happiness is grounded in our circumstances.
 - b. The other place people look for happiness is inside.
 3. Paul gives us some great advice in **Philippians 4:8**. Here he says: "**Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.**"
 - a. Paul would write: **Philippians 3:1** "**Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.**"
 - b. **Philippians 4:4** "**Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say again: Rejoice!**"
- I. Rejoice With Unpleasant Circumstances. Philippians 1:12-14** "**Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.**"
- A. Paul doesn't say "it's not right that I'm here."
 - B. In v. 13, he says, "**As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.**"
 - C. There was a second positive result in verse 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.**"
- II. Rejoice With Unreasonable People. Philippians 1:15** "**It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of good will.**"
- A. Who were Paul's critics?
 - B. **Verse 18** says, "**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.**"
- III. Rejoice With An Uncertain Future. Philippians 1:19** "**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.**"
- A. Paul is facing some difficult times ahead.
 1. "**I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.**" **Philippians 1:20**
 - B. "**For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.**" **Philippians 1:21**