

## **Reasons To Rejoice in All Circumstances**

### **Philippians 1:12-26**

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1. Sometimes we need to step back, take a look around, and recognize God's blessings.
    - b. I truly believe that those who are Christians have more reason to be happy than anybody else on the face of this earth.
  2. But I realize that's not always easy to do. Now, it's easy when circumstances are good. But what about when things aren't going so well? Paul says we still can have reason to rejoice.
  3. There are two basic places for us to find happiness.
  4. Paul shows us that God is able to use negative things in a very positive way.
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- I. You Can Rejoice When Circumstances are Unpleasant. Philippians 1:12-13, "Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel."
    - A. The saying goes, "All roads lead to Rome."
    - B. Paul's attitude demonstrates that there are two approaches we can take to life.
  - II. You Can Rejoice When People are Unreasonable. Philippians 1:15, "It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of good will."
    - A. There were people who were very critical of Paul.
    - B. In verse 18 Paul makes an incredible statement. "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."
    - C. Paul's imprisonment had two very different effects on the church.
  - III. You Can Rejoice When Your Future is Uncertain. 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. Paul is on trial in Rome.
    - B. Verse 21 is a very familiar verse. "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."