

LIVING A LIFE DEFINED BY GRACE

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS, AGAIN I SAY REJOICE!

Philippians 4:2-9

WHAT IT MEANS TO REJOICE:

To dwell on **God's grace** and let it **define** my life —**reveling** in it because it **supersedes** any and every other thing!

Living a Life Defined by Grace

WHEN YOUR LIFE IS DEFINED BY GRACE, THESE THINGS ARE TRUE OF YOU:

1. You give **<u>GRACE</u>**. (v.2-5)

2. You are **REASONABLE**. (v.5)

3. You have **GOD'S PEACE**. (v.6-7)

4. You focus on (and live out) **<u>RIGHT THINGS</u>**. (v. 8-9)

5. You experience **GOD'S CONTINUAL PRESENCE**. (v. 9)

1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Open Your Group in Prayer. Use the Prayer Guide on the next page for Suggestions.

- 1. What are the worries that typically keep you awake at night?
- 2. Read Philippians 4:4-9. What insight, principle, or observation from Sunday's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- 3. Read Philippians 4:1-3.
- 4. If you were Euodia or Syntyche, how would you have felt when this letter was read out loud to the Philippian congregation? Why?
- 5. How would you have felt if you were the "true companion" called upon to be mediator of the dispute? Why?
- 6. What can we learn from Paul's tone and vocabulary as he addresses a sensitive issue in the church?
- 7. How could the disagreement of two women be harming the whole church?
- 8. **Read Matthew 7:3-5.** How would removing the log from your own eye improve the chances of reconciliation in a strained relationship?
- 9. Read Matthew 18:21-35. What is the point of the passage? How does it apply to you? What does it mean to forgive someone? What does it not mean?
- 10. **Read Romans 12:18.** When is it not possible to be at peace with someone? What is our responsibility at that point?
- 11. Read Philippians 4:4-9.
- 12. **Read v 4.** When life is hard, how can we obey this command and still keep it real? What grounds do we have for continual joy? Read Acts 16:19-34—What impact do you imagine Paul's example of rejoicing had on the church of Philippi?
- 13. **Read v 5.** Who comes to mind as someone known for reasonableness and gentleness? Describe that person's effect on you or other people. How might a spirit of gentleness help you win over worry?
- 14. Read v 6-7. Why bother to tell God our worries if He already knows everything? Practically, how do you devote yourself to prayer if you are stressed out and your mind is distracted? How do you pray with thanksgiving? Have you ever experienced the peace that surpasses understanding... when and how?
- 15. Read v 8. What obstacles do we face in obeying this verse? What changes would have to happen in your life in order to have a mind that is filled with holy and honorable thoughts?
- 16. Read v 9. How has the example of a mature believer helped you follow Jesus? What helps you translate spiritual knowledge into faithful behavior? Why does obedience to God result in peace of mind?

PRAYER GUIDE

During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items. Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.

NOTE: Due to the sensative nature of some items on the Prayer Guide, we do not publish it online. Email the church office to sign up for the email prayer list: office@wawaseebible.com

Personal Prayer Items