**FINDING JOY NO MATTER WHAT**

The Pursuit of Happyness - Part 2

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**Philippians 1:21 (NIV) – Memory Verse**
For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

**WHAT YOU NEED TO LIVE JOYFULLY**

1. **Have The Right Perspective** vs. 12-14)

Paul's view of his circumstances:

**Philippians 1:12 (NIV)**
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 (vs. 13) **Is A Witness to Unbelievers**

It (vs. 14) **Is An Encouragement To Believers**

**Romans 8:28 (NIV)**
And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Remember**: God Has A Purpose Behind My Problem**

**2. Have The Right Priority** vs. 15-18)

Paul's response to his critics:

**Philippians 1:18 (NIV)**
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. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice,

**Proverbs 3:6 (TLB)**
In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success.

Remember to **Focus On What Really Counts**

3. **Don’t Lean Upon Your Own Strength** (vs. 19-20)

Paul's source of strength:

**Philippians 1:19 (NIV)**
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.

**Philippians 4:13 (CEV)**
Christ gives me the strength to face anything.

Remember: **With God’s Power Nothing Can Devastate Me**

4. **Know Your Purpose For Living** (vs. 20-26)

Paul's reason for living:

**Philippians 1:21 (NIV)**
For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

**Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)**
 ...But one thing I do: 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.

Paul's concern:

**Philippians 1:22-26 (NIV)**
If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.

Remember this truth: **Life Is Not About You**