

Pastor Bryan Modglin | God's Prescription For Joy

Philippians 4:4-7

May 12, 2024

1| Read Philippians 4:4

Paul gives us a double command to "rejoice". If "rejoicing" is the effect of having "joy," when and where does the Christian get their joy (hint: Galatians 5:22-23)?

2| Continuing in Philippians 4:4, Paul can command us to rejoice because every believer has, as the fruit of the Spirit, joy. Do you ever find it difficult to rejoice in your present situation? Can you think of a time when things weren't going your way and yet you were still able to have the spirit of joy? What was the difference then as compared to other times when your circumstances weighed you down (hint: who is the source of our joy)?

3| Read Philippians 4:5

In the first part of verse 5 Paul gives his third command, "Let your reasonableness be known to everyone." This is our response to having joy and it should be not only noticeable to all, but infectious as well. Who are we to be reasonable to? Have you ever found it difficult to be gentle or courteous to certain people?

The second part of verse 5 gives our incentive for having joy despite our circumstances, and for being reasonable to all no matter if they deserve it or not. What is our greatest incentive for obeying these commands?

4| Read Philippians 4:6

The second part of verse 5 gives our incentive for having joy despite our circumstances, and for being reasonable to all no matter if they deserve it or not. What is our greatest incentive for obeying these commands?

5| Prayer, supplication, and requests are three aspects of prayer. What do each of these focus on? Then, we are commanded to have thanksgiving. How does praying and being thankful help us to have joy?

6| Read Philippians 4:7

Finally, in verse 7 we have our assurance for joy. God promises to guard our hearts and thoughts. What military term does Paul use and why would those in Philippi relate to this?