

SERMON NOTES

*Joy for the Journey: A Life of Perpetual Joy
Enjoying God's People
Philippians 3:12-21*

Paul's mind and heart were at peace because he was not disturbed by people, circumstances, or things. Instead, Paul lived with continual joy because he had learned the secret for a secure mind. You can live with perpetual joy when your heart and mind are at peace. How can your heart and mind be at peace? There must be a security that one senses. When a person's security is threatened, they often react in fear instead of faith. The result is a loss of joy and a lifestyle of worry. In the final chapter of Paul's letter to the Philippians, he provides four ingredients for a life of perpetual joy:

- Enjoy God's People
- Rest in God's Presence
- Rely on God's Power
- Trust God's Provision

Over the next four weeks, we will examine each of these to better understand Paul's encouragement to the Philippians, and how best to apply this to our lives. Today, we begin with the importance of enjoying God's people.

Key thought: Your heart and mind are at peace when you are enjoying God's people!

MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDE ABOUT OTHER BELIEVERS: (V. 1)

- Affection
- Appreciation
- Affirmation
- Admonition

MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE IN UNITY WITH OTHER BELIEVERS: (VS. 2-5)

John 13:35, 17:21; Romans 12:10; Ephesians 4:2-6; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Hebrews 10:25

- Settle your differences (Matthew 18:15-35)
- Be a peacemaker (Romans 12:18)
- Let others see a Christ-like spirit within you (Colossians 3:12-13)

Take Away:

How can I "enjoy God's people"?

1. Pray for one another
2. Worship together regularly (Hebrews 10:25)
3. Be involved in a group
4. Be involved in serving with others
5. Exercise hospitality