

# NO MATTER WHAT

A Study in Philippians.  
A Challenge in Joy.



A dark, atmospheric photograph of a prison cell. A barred window in the upper right corner allows a bright beam of light to stream across the dark floor, creating a path of light and long shadows. The walls and ceiling are dark and textured.

# **NO MATTER WHAT:**

**Joy & Peace**

Philippians 4:1-9

# Philippians 4:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the Gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

# Philippians 4:1-9

4

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again:  
Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all.  
The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.  
And the peace of God, which transcends all  
understanding, will guard your hearts and your  
minds in Christ Jesus.

# Philippians 4:1-9

8

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Throughout Philippians, Paul has been describing how we are to live the Christian life...

## Chapter 1: Put the Gospel first

Philippians 1:27

“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the Gospel.”

Throughout Philippians, Paul has been describing how we are to live the Christian life...

Chapter 1: Put the Gospel first

Chapter 2: Have the same mindset as Jesus

Philippians 2:5-7

“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant.”

Throughout Philippians, Paul has been describing how we are to live the Christian life...

Chapter 1: Put the Gospel first

Chapter 2: Have the same mindset as Jesus

Chapter 3: Follow good role models

Philippians 3:17

“Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.”

Throughout Philippians, Paul has been describing how we are to live the Christian life...

Chapter 1: Put the Gospel first

Chapter 2: Have the same mindset as Jesus

Chapter 3: Follow good role models

Chapter 4: Never give up the Christian walk

Philippians 4:1

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!”

# Chapter 4: Never give up the Christian walk

Philippians 4:1

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!”

Paul isn't “should-ing” or scolding...

- My brothers and sisters
- You whom I love and long for
- My joy and crown
- Dear friends!

Paul isn't "should-ing" or scolding...

Paul's not pointing his finger and  
saying: "Don't give up!"

He's saying: "I love you too much  
to let you give up!

There's too much at stake!"

He's saying: "I love you too much  
to let you give up!

There's too much at stake!"

So here's what Paul's telling us to do—

1. Beware of false teachers. (Phil. 3:2; 18-19)

*"Don't believe anyone who points  
you to anything but the Gospel."*

So here's what Paul's telling us to do—

1. Beware of false teachers. (Phil. 3:2; 18-19)

2. Strive for unity. (Phil. 4:2-3; 2:1-3; 2:14-15)

Philippians 4:2

*“...be of the same mind in the Lord.”*

So here's what Paul's telling us to do—

1. Beware of false teachers. (Phil. 3:2; 18-19)

2. Strive for unity. (Phil. 4:2-3; 2:1-3; 2:14-15)

3. Find your joy in the Lord. (Phil. 4:4; 3:1)

James 1:2

*"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,  
whenever you face trials of many kinds..."*

So here's what Paul's telling us to do—

1. Beware of false teachers. (Phil. 3:2; 18-19)
2. Strive for unity. (Phil. 4:2-3; 2:1-3; 2:14-15)
3. Find your joy in the Lord. (Phil. 4:4; 3:1)
4. We can't stop trusting. (Phil. 4:6-7)

So here's what Paul's telling us to do—

1. Beware of false teachers. (Phil. 3:2; 18-19)
2. Strive for unity. (Phil. 4:2-3; 2:1-3; 2:14-15)
3. Find your joy in the Lord. (Phil. 4:4; 3:1)
4. We can't stop trusting. (Phil. 4:6-7)
5. Win the battle in your mind. (Phil. 4:8)

“Worry is not primarily a psychological problem — it is first a theological problem.”



ERIK SPOHR, LEAD PASTOR AT CENTERVILLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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"Lord, I need you..."

“Lord, I need you...”

- “This is what I’m anxious about...”
- “I want to thank you for...”
- “Lord, I’m asking you to...”
- “I need your peace to guard my heart...”
- “I am choosing to rejoice...”

