

# THE MOST STRESSFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

“Happy, Happy, Happy” – Part 2 of 5

October 27, 2024

*Philippians 1:12-30*

“WHATEVER HAPPENS, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel (Good News) of Christ!” **Philippians 1:27 (NIV)**

## NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS . . .

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ GOD CAN BRING GOOD OUT OF ANYTHING

“We know that IN ALL THINGS (that happen) God works for the good of those who love him and are called according to his purpose.” **Romans 8:28 (NIV '84)**

“I will praise the Lord no matter what happens.” **Psalms 34:1a (LB)**

#### Paul's Example:

“I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News.” **Philippians 1:12 (NLT)**

## ANYTIME I FACE A PROBLEM WITH FAITH . . .

### • IT'S A \_\_\_\_\_ TO UNBELIEVERS

“Everyone here (Roman prison), including all the soldiers in the palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ.” **Philippians 1:13 (NLT '96)**

### • IT'S AN \_\_\_\_\_ TO BELIEVERS

“And because of my imprisonment, many believers here have gained confidence and been encouraged to speak fearlessly in telling others about Christ.”

**Philippians 1:14 (NLT '96)**

### 2. NEVER LET OTHERS CONTROL MY \_\_\_\_\_

**CRITICS:** “It's true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry.”

**Philippians 1:15 (NIV)**

**COMPANIONS** (who care): “Others (preach) out of good will. These do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.”

**Philippians 1:16 (NIV '84)**

**COMPETITORS:** “(Others) preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely”

**Philippians 1:17a (NIV)**

**CHALLENGERS:** “(Others want to) stir up trouble for me while I am in chains.”

**Philippians 1:17b (NIV)**

### **Paul's Attitude:**

*"But it doesn't matter! The **IMPORTANT THING** is that in every way, whether for right or wrong reasons, they are preaching about Christ! So I AM HAPPY, and I'll CONTINUE TO BE HAPPY!" **Philippians 1:18 (NCV)***

*"Tell the good news fearlessly, no matter what your enemies may do. They will see this as a sign of their downfall, but for you it will be a clear sign from God that He is with you, and that he has given you eternal life with him." **Philippians 1:28 (LB)***

*"For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. We are in this fight together. You have seen me suffer for him in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of a great struggle." **Philippians 1:29-30 (NLT '96)***

*"No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." **1 Thessalonians 5:18 (LB)***

### **3. \_\_\_\_\_ GOD TO ALWAYS WORK THINGS OUT**

*"I will continue to rejoice, for I know that as you pray for me and as the Spirit of Jesus Christ helps me, this will all TURN OUT for my deliverance."*

**Philippians 1:19 (NLT '96)**

*"It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage, now as always, Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death!" **Philippians 1:20 (ESV)***

*"Do not let your happy trust in the Lord die away, no matter what happens. Remember your reward!" **Hebrews 10:35 (LB)***

### **4. STAY FOCUSED ON MY \_\_\_\_\_, NOT MY PROBLEM**

*"If by continuing to live I can do more worthwhile work, then I am not sure which I should choose. I'm pulled in two directions! I want very much to leave this life and be with Christ, which is a far better thing; **BUT** for your sake it is much more important that I remain alive. I am sure of this, and so I know that I will stay on with you all, to add to your progress and joy in the faith." **Philippians 1:22-25 (GN)***

*"For me to live is Christ and to die is gain!" **Philippians 1:21 (NIV '84)***

**FOR ME TO LIVE IS \_\_\_\_\_**

**How YOU complete this sentence will determine your happiness**