

Philippians Series

Lesson #089

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Developing a Spiritually Tough Mindset

Philippians 4:4–10



Php. 4:4, “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

Php. 4:5, “Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

Php. 4:6, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Php. 4:7, “and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Php. 4:8, “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Php. 4:9, “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Php. 4:10, “But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity.”

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Php. 4:10, “But I **rejoiced** in the Lord greatly that now at last your **care [thoughtful concern]** for me has flourished again; though you surely did **care [think about me]**, but you lacked opportunity.”

What is the key idea here?

Rejoice, but more ...

Mental attitude; mindset; thinking

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2 plur pres act

impera

to rejoice; be glad

Present imperatives

indicate a

standard practice

which believers

should have.

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36× in the epistles, 29× by Paul, 9×

in Php., 4× in John’s epistles,

mostly 2 John, 1× in 3 John

2× in Peter, 1 Pet. 4:13

1 Pet. 4:13, “but rejoice to the extent

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χαρά (*chara*), joy, 24× in the Gospels; 4× in Acts; 31× in the Epistles

What the Bible Teaches About

Joy



5. Jesus' teaching in the Upper Room Discourse. Turn to the passage of John 15:

John 15:11, “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

6. Joy should not be translated with happiness. Happiness is often ephemeral, transitory, it is based on circumstances. Biblical joy might be at times based on circumstances, but underlying it is a stable mentality of tranquility, confidence, certainty, expressed because its foundation and focus is on the eternal God and His promises.

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πληρόω *pleroo* impf. 3 sg. ἐπλήρου; [1] to fill up, to bring to completion. As in Paul in Php. 2:2, “fulfill my joy by being like minded.”

Context, context, context!

John 15:1, “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

John 15:2, “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He lifts up; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

John 15:3, “You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

John 15:4, “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”

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καθαρός *katharos* spiritually clean (forgiven); a. ritually or ceremonially clean in the Old Testament; b. in the New Testament the eternal, legal position of being fully cleansed from sin at salvation; c. describing the temporal reality of being in right relationship, or participating in partnership (fellowship) by walking by the Spirit.

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John 13:6, “Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, are You **washing [nipto partial washing]** my feet?’

John 13:7, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.’

John 13:8, “Peter said to Him, ‘You shall never wash **[nipto partial washing]** my feet!’ Jesus answered him, ‘If I do not wash **[nipto partial washing]** you, you have no part [*meros: share in an inheritance*] with Me.’

John 13:9, “Simon Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!’

John 13:10, “Jesus said to him, ‘He who is bathed [**louo full body bath**] needs only to wash **[nipto partial washing]** his feet, but is completely clean [**katharos sg.**]; and you are clean [**katharos sg.**], but not all of you [not all y’all].’ ”

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1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

καθαρίζω katharizō 3 sing aor act subj to cleanse

John 15:4, “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”

Abiding is the necessary and sole pre-requisite for bearing fruit.

**Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**

**Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is
no law.”**

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**Php. 4:5, “Let your gentleness be known to all men.
The Lord *is* at hand.”**

ἐπιεικῆς *epieikēs*

**NIDNTT “graciousness”: gentle in the sense
of not being ungracious, cruel, or abusive**

Though it is often translated as gentle, many modern versions translate ἐπιεικῆς [*epieikēs*] as gracious.

Php. 4:5, “Let your graciousness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.” [~HCSB]

James 3:17, “But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gracious, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.” [~RD]

1 Pet. 2:18, “Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gracious but also to the unjust.” [~RD]

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ἐγκράτεια* *egkrateia*, **self-control, self-mastery, self-restraint*

2 Pet. 1:5, “For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,

2 Pet. 1:6, “and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness,

2 Pet. 1:7, “and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

2 Pet. 1:8, “For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

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Gal. 5:16, “Walk by means of the Spirit and it will be impossible for you to bring to completion the lust of the sin nature.” [RD]

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**Only by “abiding in Christ” and “walking by the Spirit” can
the Holy Spirit produce these spiritually tough mental
attitudes within us!**

7. This joy is a product of the Holy Spirit.

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Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

8. As such we can all have tremendous joy, inner happiness, contentment, tranquility.

2 Cor. 7:4, “Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation.”

Rom. 15:13, “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”