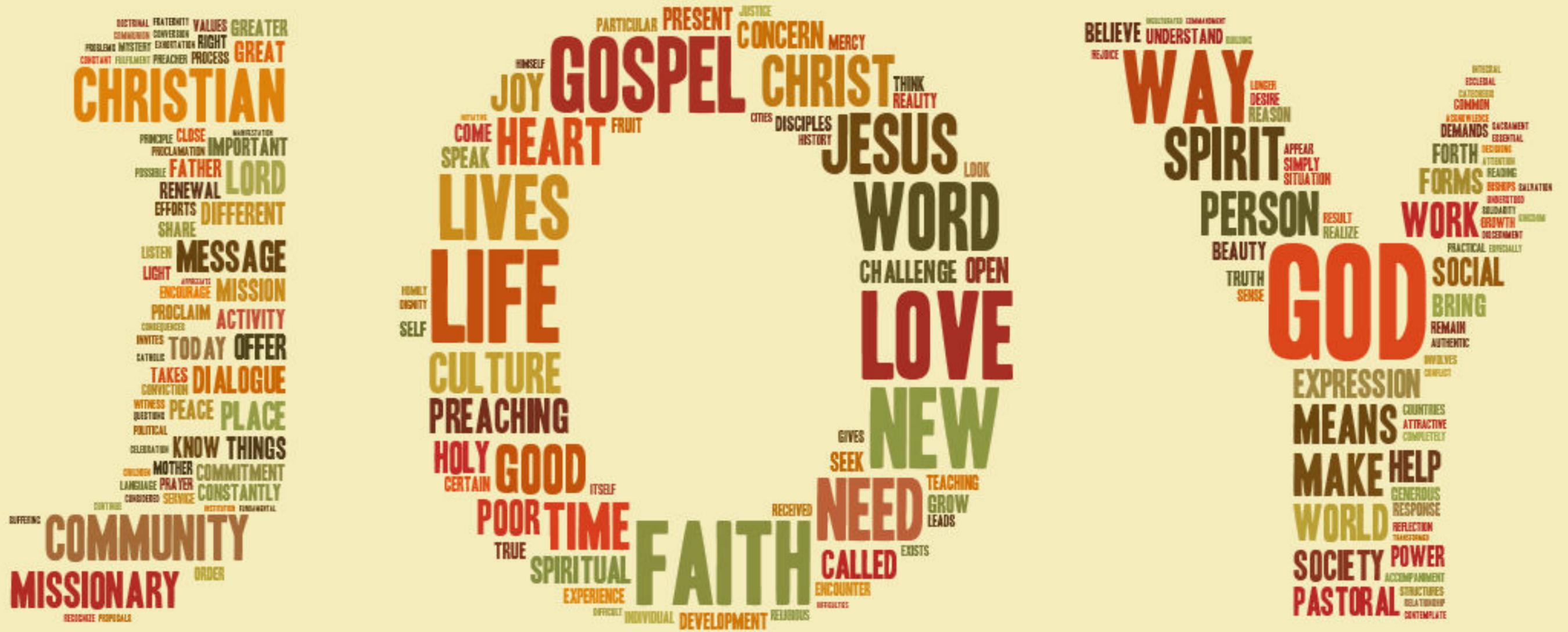


# The Book of Philippians



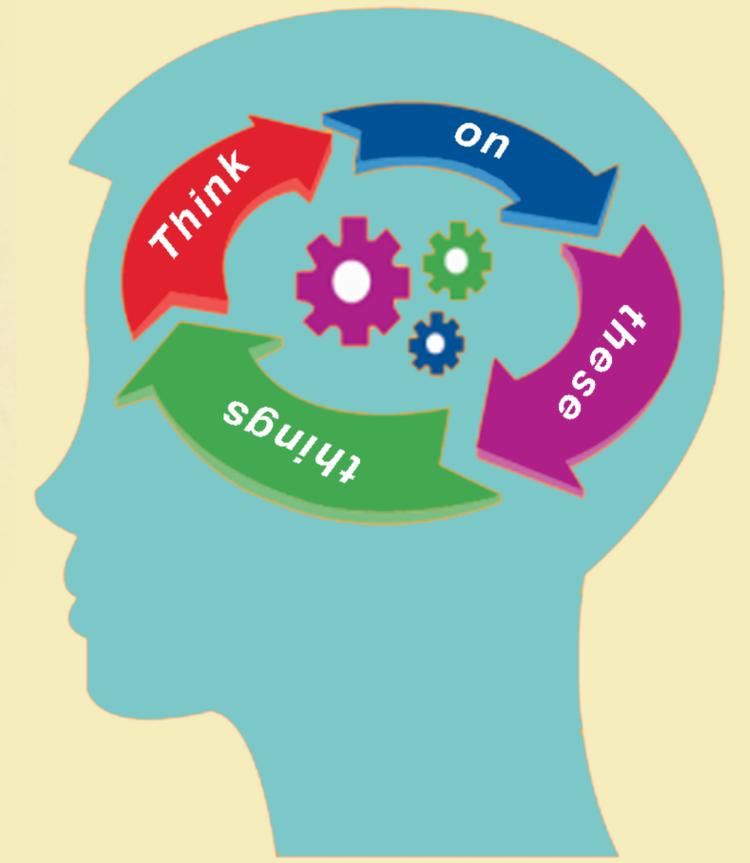
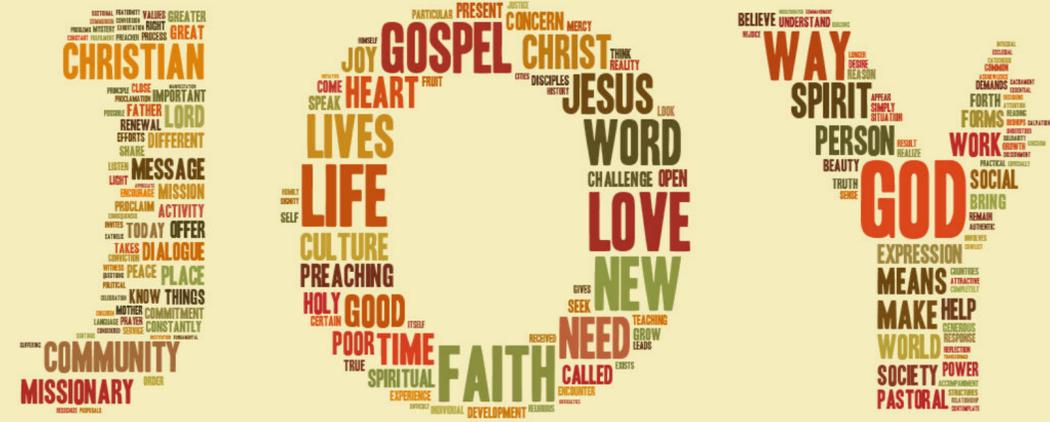
IN ALL THINGS

# Philippians Joy

The way to find

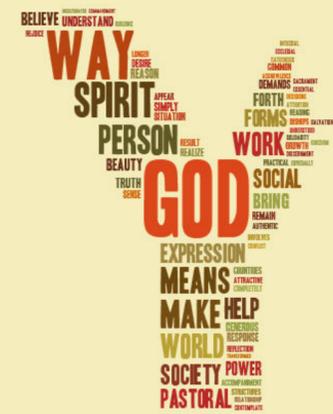
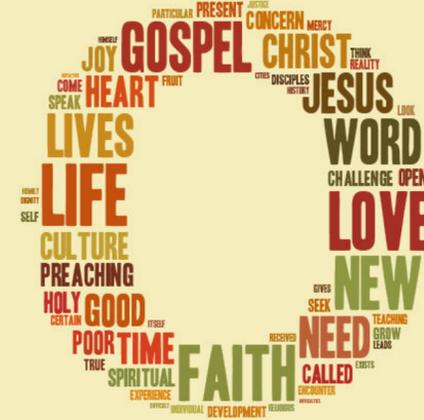
be  
*thankful*  
and  
*grateful*

*Believe!*  
and  
*\*suffer\**



# Philippians 1

The way to find



be

*thankful*  
and  
*grateful*

# *Thankful, Grateful and Confident = Joy*

**Philippians 1:6** *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

**Philippians 1:9-11** *And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.*

**Philippians 1:14** *And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.*

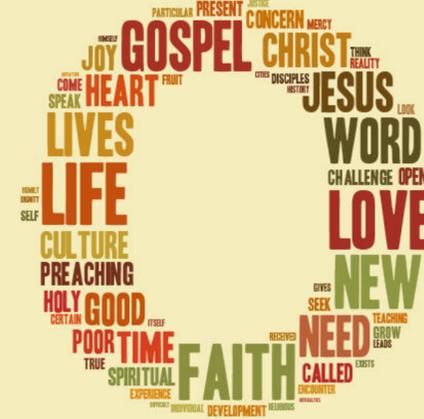
**Philippians 1:21** *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

**Philippians 1:27** *Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel*

**Philippians 1:29** *For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake*

# Philippians 2

The way to find



*Believe!*  
and  
*\*suffer\**

# Believing in Suffering = Joy

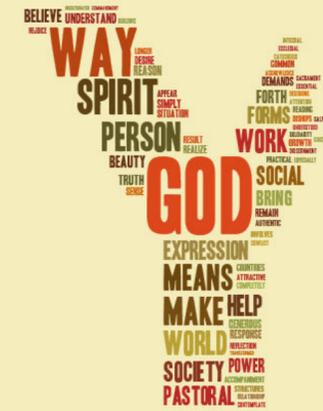
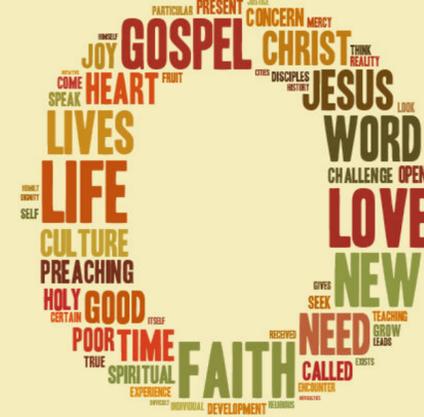
**Philippians 2:2-3** *Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*

**Philippians 2:5-7** *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:*

**Philippians 2:14-16** *Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.*

# Philippians 3

The way to find



be  
HUMBLE



# Focus on Jesus Produces Humility = Joy



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**Philippians 3:7, 10** *But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. That I may **know** him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death*

**Philippians 3:13-14** *...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

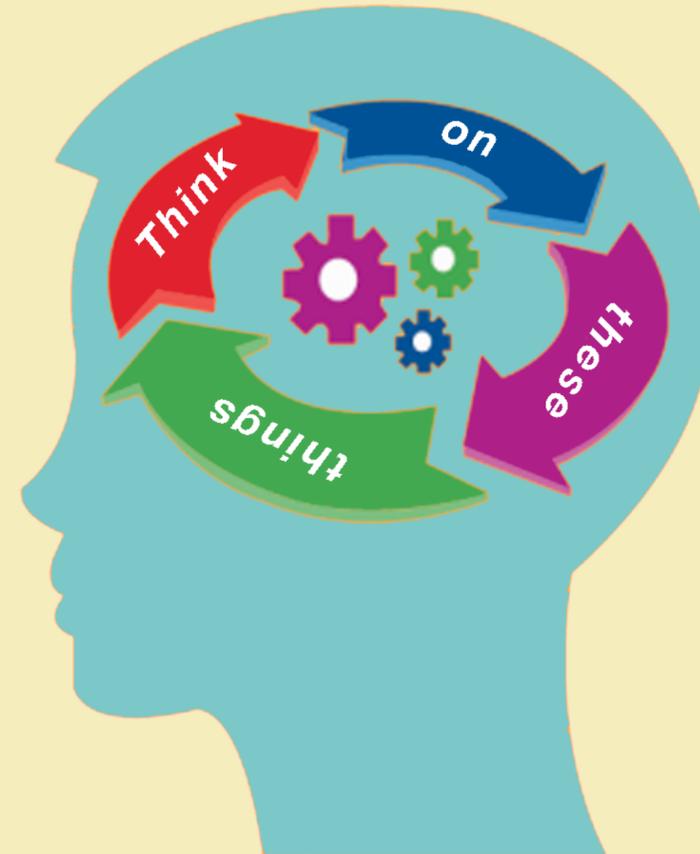
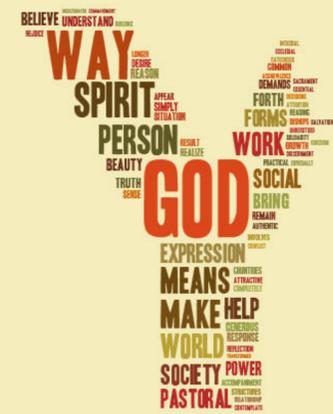
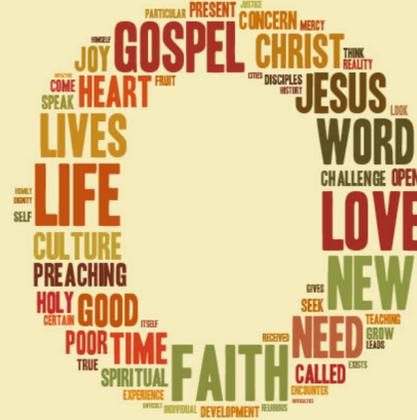
**Philippians 3:20-21** For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

**The glorious ending to chapter 3 is a promise of glory to come.**

*Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*

# Philippians 4

## The way to find



# Renewing Your Mind = Joy



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Chapter 4: think — Renew your mind in the things of God (Philippians 4:8) Live in a way that honors God (Philippians 4:9) and you will be transformed, rather than conformed to this world (Romans 12:2) “and the God of peace will be with you” (Philippians 4:9).

**Philippians 4:6** *Be careful [anxious] for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*

**Philippians 4:8** *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*

**Philippians 4:13** *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

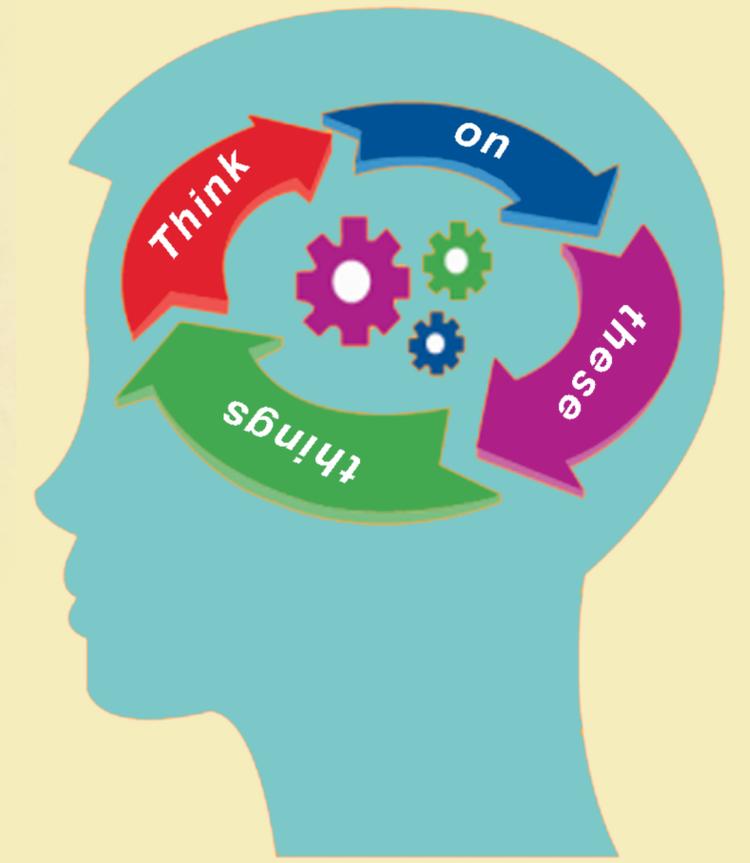
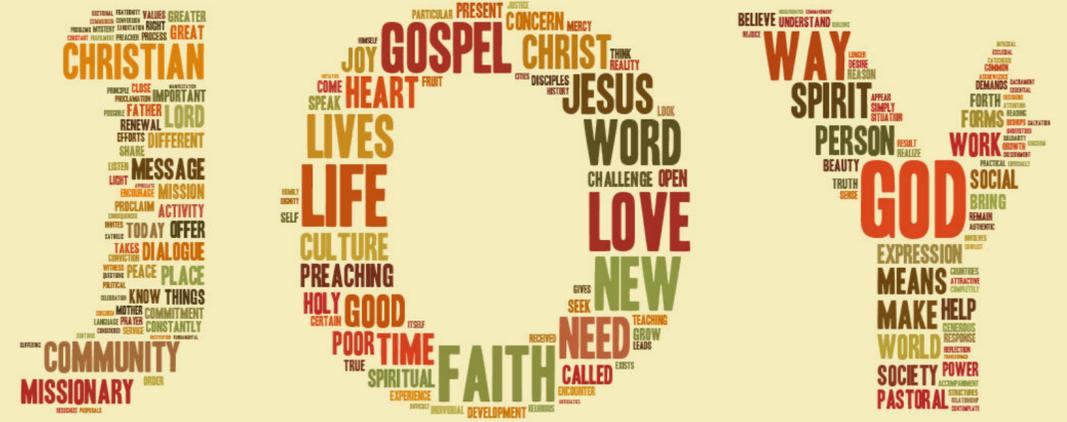
**Philippians 4:19** *But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

# Philippians Joy

The way to find

be  
*thankful*  
and  
*grateful*

*Believe!*  
and  
*\*suffer\**



## *How do we rejoice in suffering (tribulation)?*

Paul tells us in Romans 5:3-10

*Rom 5:3-4 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.*

We rejoice in suffering because we **know**. Suffering isn't a great feeling, but we know that in suffering God has purpose. We know that suffering is productive. It produces or accomplishes something. And because we know that, we can rejoice.

Three things that suffering produces:

1. Perseverance (patience). The Greek word literally means "to abide under, to stay under the pressure." Suffering teaches us to turn to Jesus and "hang in there." Suffering produces a steadiness and patience for endurance.



2. Character. The Greek word for character has the idea of being put to the test and approved. It means being shown to stand strong. People see strength in you, and they know they can count on you. Suffering produces a strength for endurance.

3. Hope. Hope is confident expectation. Our hope is a certainty in knowing that we are being conformed to to the image of Christ (Rom 8:29) and that we will share the glory of God.

*Rom 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

We are being made more like Jesus — more thoughtful, more compassionate, more loving, more generous, etc. We are becoming stronger, wiser, purer, more patient.

*And so we can rejoice ...in all things.*



## The Key to Suffering Well

*Rom 5:5-10 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

Paul wrote that we must see our suffering as evidence of God's love, not His wrath, so we can experience His love in suffering.

The Holy Spirit does shed abroad in our hearts the love of God (v.5).



## The Key to Suffering Well

We are God's children and He loves us. We need to believe that. He is a good, good Father and gives us good things. In suffering we have a choice:

1. To accept that God has a good purpose for allowing suffering in our lives. Then, our suffering produces perseverance, character, and a hope so rich, so restful, and so radiant that we are able to rejoice.
2. Or we can choose to see our suffering as God's wrath, His judgment upon us. When that happens, we feel hurt, we get angry. and we often become resentful. At the very least one's soul is downcast. Then, suffering will not produce hope, but rather to despair.

Paul reminded the church at Rome of God's great love for them and His amazing gift of grace (vs 6-10).

*We can choose to remember the gift of grace that God has given us, and therefore, we can rejoice ...in all things.*



# Lessons from Philipians



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God wants us to turn every obstacle into an opportunity to seek Him.

- When we face temptation, God wants us to understand our weakness and vulnerability and seek His strength immediately. He is our Mighty God.
- When we become discouraged, God wants us to trust His promises and to look up to Him as our Prince of Peace.
- When we suffer, God wants us to know He has a purpose in all suffering and to turn to Him as our Great Physician who will heal and restore us.

G. K. Chesterton wrote: "Jesus promised his disciples three things—that they would be completely fearless, absurdly happy [joyous], and in constant trouble."

If we choose the first (fearlessness), we will experience the third (constant trouble), but we will also have the second (joy) to the glory of God.

- God wants us to be dependent on Him,
- to be confident about Him, and
- to be satisfied in Him.



The book of Philippians teaches the joy that comes from total dependence on Christ and complete satisfaction in Him.

The book of Philippians teaches the joy that comes from total dependence on Christ and complete satisfaction in Him.

Things of this world will never satisfy. They can only bring conditional contentment that is fleeting. Jesus is more than enough. His love and His grace are sufficient to give us rest, strength and hope in all things. He will never disappoint or desert us. He is with us always through the power of the Holy Spirit who directs and guides us always. Our duty is to be confident, dependent, surrendered, and willing to live for Jesus. He will give us the strength we need to do so.

*2 Cor 12:9-10 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.*

