



Part
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Joy in the Midst of Difficulty

This week Pastor Ken started a new series called *The New Normal*. We will look together at the book of Philippians and how to have joy when life is difficult and challenging. So gather with your family or go through these points alone each week and let's grow together.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Philippians 4:4

1. Begin by reading Philippians chapter one. In this chapter Paul shows us how to have joy when life is difficult or challenging. If Paul can do it, by the grace of God, we can too.
2. First, Paul refuses to let circumstances make him helpless (see verses 12-14). Decide right now, to be victorious instead of a victim. Is there a situation in your life at this time that you need the power of God to help you with?
3. Second, Paul refused to let his critics make him bitter. When God gives you success in something there will be those who celebrate with you and those who are jealous. Can you think of a critic in your life? Make a decision today to pray, bless, and learn from your critics. Don't let them rob you of your joy. Instead, outlast them just like Paul did.
4. The last thing that Pastor Ken shared is that Paul refused to let uncertainty make him anxious (look at verse 21 again). We can be secure in Him because living is about living for Christ and Jesus will take care of your future whether you live or die.
5. What are you anxious about today? Bring it to Jesus and surrender it to Him today.

Close in prayer