

FOR YOUR PROGRESS AND JOY

PHILIPPIANS 1:19-26

BACKGROUND: Philippians continues to challenge you to go deeper in your faith and see the reward.

IT'S GOD'S PLAN. Paul had confident expectation that Christ would be exalted in His life; and through prayer and the provision of the Holy Spirit, God's purpose would reign. Knowing that you have a part in God's plan leads you to join the Holy Spirit in praying for other's progress and joy in the faith. (**Philippians 1:19-20, fn 1:19-21, Philippians 4:6-7, fn 4:6-7, II Corinthians 1:8-11, fn 1:8, fn 1:11, Ephesians 6:18-20, fn 6:19-20**) *Why and how should you pray for your loved ones?*

IT'S ALL GOOD. Like Paul, you know that you possess eternal life and a relationship with Jesus, but the depth of your pursuit of this relationship determines the joy that you experience on earth. Paul also knew that the joy he would experience when he was in heaven with the Lord would be even greater than His present joy, so he could confidently say in his trials, "All is well." (**Philippians 1:21-23, fn 1:20-21, Romans 8:28, fn 8:28, II Timothy 1:9-12, fn 1:12[1st], I John 3:1-3, fn 3:2-3, II Corinthians 5:1-10, fn 5:6-8**) *How could you have joy in all circumstances?*

IT'S YOUR PURPOSE. You want your loved ones and the people you meet and know to have what you have. The Holy Spirit will help you and guide you to people who need the Lord. There is no greater joy than leading someone to trust Christ; and you can easily use a simple tract, for example, "The Four Spiritual Laws", to share the gospel with them. Because of your obedience and willingness to share your faith, their progress and joy in the faith may also grow and abound! (**Philippians 1:24-26, fn 1:24, Romans 10:14-15, fn 10:14, fn 10:15, Proverbs 11:30, fn 11:30, Daniel 12:3, fn 12:3**) *Why and how should you actively share your faith?*

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?