

THIS IS WHERE YOU WANT TO BE

PHILIPPIANS 4:5-7

BACKGROUND: In the Scriptures in the previous lesson, we saw that we were reminded more than once to rejoice—“again I say rejoice!” This is truly where you want to be—rejoicing and enjoying the peace of God.

SHOWING GENTLENESS TO ALL—Gentleness is a gracious attitude of humility that “produces the patience to endure injustice, disgrace, and mistreatment without retaliation, bitterness, or vengeance.” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Philippians, p.276. Gentleness to all is not self-produced asceticism. Rather, it springs from a heart and mind that is led and guided by the grace of the ever-present Holy Spirit. A gentle person wants Jesus to look good, not self. (**Philippians 4:5, fn 4:5, Titus 3:1-2, fn 3:2, Hebrews 12:14-15, fn 12:15**) *What would it take for you to show gentleness to all?*

PRAYING TO GOD in all situations and circumstances—Early morning quiet time with your Lord and His Word is a great time to not only give Him your thankfulness, but also you anxieties, your troubles, and your fears. Your faith and your love of God will grow as you continue to pray about everything during your day. (**Philippians 4:5, fn 4:6-7, Matthew 11:28-30, fn 11:28-30, I Thessalonians 5:16-18, fn 5:16-18, fn 5:17, I Peter 5:7, fn 5:7**) *How could you have a special time with your Lord each day?*

ENJOYING THE PEACE OF GOD—Our Lord gives proof of answered prayer by giving you His peace. This is not your peace; instead it is God’s supernatural peace that assures you that He has heard your prayer. God’s guarantee that He will answer your prayer according to your ultimate good and His perfect will gives confident assurance to your heart and mind that is beyond comprehension. (**Philippians 4:7, fn 4:7, John 14:25-27, fn 14:27, Romans 5:1, fn 5:1, Romans 8:26-28, fn 8:28**) *Are you where you want to be in experiencing and enjoying the peace of God? Explain.*

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?

