

## The Secret of Living Right

Paul was a man of great faith and devotion to God. He had given up everything that the world considered “important” in order to give himself totally to the cause of Christ. All throughout his letters, his confidence in God's ability to “make everything all right” comes shining through.

His confidence was put to work in Paul's life . It had to be—given the difficulties with which his life was filled. He understood his success or failure depended on his “living the life.” His advice for the people of Philippi in Philippians 4 is good advice for us – teaching us how to live a life pleasing to God. He says in part:

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything , by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, Present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4-7) Read the entire chapter for yourself.

In this chapter, Paul says that the church in Philippi (and Columbus Avenue in Waco) should:

Be unified in faith and thought (verses 2-3)

Be happy (verse 4)

Be gentle (verse 5)

Not be filled with worry (verse 6)

Be thankful (verse 6)

Be prayerful (verse 6)

Be thinkers of good thoughts (verse 8)

Be at peace with God (verses 7 and 9)

Be content whatever the situation (verses 11 and 12)

Be confident, but not in themselves. Be confident in God's ability to strengthen and sustain them (verses 13 and 19)

Absolutely great rules for living the life that is pleasing to the Lord. We should do everything in our power to put them into effect in our lives. God is counting on us!