

# 40 Days in the Word - Philippians 4:4-5

## KEY VERSE:

*Philippians 4:4-5 (NIV) Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.*

## *How can we rejoice in the Lord always?*

### *Philippians 1:12-14, 18-21*

The Apostle Paul can rejoice in the Lord always because he has developed a kingdom's perspective.

The Apostle Paul was able to rejoice despite all of the persecution he has faced because he knew and he focused on what is eternal. He knew that *the Good News is too good of a news not to share!*

## *What does it mean to rejoice?*

### *Philippians 2:1-4*

To rejoice in the Lord is to not grumble and complain but to also display godliness in how we act and treat others as our response to what Jesus did on the cross for us.

## **Gentleness is...**

- One of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Showing care and respect for others
- Comes from a state of Humility

## **How to be Gentle?** Three Characteristic of Jesus Christ

### **1. Be humble**

***James 4:6*** “But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble”

***James 4:10*** “Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”

### **2. Be Patient**

***Ephesians 4:2*** “ Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love. ”

### **3. Act with Love**

***John 15:12*** “ My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.”

### **Practical Application**

Remember the Golden Rule: Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

### **Gentleness is not a weakness but Power Under Control**

- Jesus was a picture of gentle strength, of humble power.

**Matthew 21:5** “See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey

**Matthew 11: 28-30** ”Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

### **The Lord is near.**

The phrase “the Lord is near,” could mean two different things.

- a. Imminent return of Jesus

That Christ’s soon return for His own people, is commonly presented in Scripture as an impetus or encouragement for holy living which gentleness is one of the visible qualities of it.

b. It could also mean that of nearness in terms of place and position.

The very Presence of the Lord, His immediate nearness, is one of the most treasured assurance of everyone who believes in Jesus. There is a promised Presence of Jesus to every believer as we go through life on this side of eternity.

***Matt.28: 19-20***, Part of the great commission is the assurance of His divine Presence. “ And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”