REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

(How can we keep rejoicing regardless of circumstances?)

Philippians 4:1-23

Key Verses: 4:4

1. How did Paul reveal his affection for the Philippians (1)? What did he encourage them to do? In what ways did Paul try to reconcile Euodia and Syntyche (2-3)?

2. Read verse 4. Review how joy had characterized Paul’s life (1:4,18;2:2,17-18; 4:1,10). Why did he admonish the Philippians to rejoice repeatedly? What should be evident in a Christian’s character, and why (5)? *Discussion: How can we keep rejoicing regardless of circumstances?*

3. Read verses 6-7. What should we do when we become anxious? What blessing comes to those who present their requests to God (7; Isa 26:3)? How does anxiety affect Christians personally and in community, and how can we resolve it?

4. Read verses 8-9. What is the significance of thinking about “such things”? How does this impact the formation of one’s character and lifestyle? What did Paul emphasize that they practice? Why is it important to emulate a Christ-centered mentor?

5. How did Paul respond to the Philippians’ renewed concern for him, and why (10-11)? What was the secret of his contentment (12-13)? How did Paul express his appreciation for the Philippians’ service, bless them and greet them (14-23)?