

### III. BE PRAYERFUL FOR THE NEEDS IN PEOPLE (1:9-11)

#### A. Relationship Problem #3:

People talk to people about people rather than talk to God about people.

#### B. The Answer: Pray for people.

*“bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.”*  
Luke 6:28

Pray specifically that the people in your life will...

- grow in love (v 9)
- make wise choices (v 10a)
- do the right thing (v 10b)
- become like Jesus Christ (v 11)

**GO BEYOND HAPPINESS AND CHOOSE #JOY**

## # JOY Beyond Happiness Building Joyful Relationships Pastor Steve Reynolds

### INTRODUCTION

- A. Have you lost your joy in a negative world? God is the source of true joy. No matter what circumstances you face, He will provide extreme joy in your life!

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”*  
Philippians 4:4

Joy is an internal choice of hope based on my belief in Jesus Christ.

- B. The book of Philippians is my favorite book of the Bible:

1. It is a personal book that reveals a lot about Paul.
2. It is a practical book that deals with relevant issues.
3. It is a positive book that focuses on joy.

- C. In this powerful study of the book of Philippians, you'll discover the difference between happiness and joy, and how you can experience the lasting joy that God wants for your life.

Apr 21	The Joy Of Easter
TODAY	Building Joyful Relationships
May 5	Finding Joy Through Suffering
May 12	Experiencing Joy When You're Stressed
May 19	The Secret Of Joy In Conflict
May 26	The Daily Joy Workout
Jun 2	The Keys To Eternal Joy
Jun 9	The Joy Of Doing Right
Jun 16	Discovering Joy Through Service
Jun 24	The Joy Of Generous Living

- D. **Text:** Philippians 1:1-11 (Pew Bible/Page 202/New Test.)

## BUILDING JOYFUL RELATIONSHIPS

### I. BE **POSITIVE** ABOUT THE **GOOD** IN PEOPLE (1:1-5)

#### A. Relationship Problem #1:

People tend to focus on the **bad** in people and ignore the good in people.

#### B. The Answer: **Choose** to focus on the good in people.

*“9 With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God.  
10 Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.” James 3:9-10*

Background: Acts 16:12-40

### II. BE **PATIENT** WITH THE **GROWTH** IN PEOPLE (1:6-8)

#### A. Relationship Problem #2:

People judge others by how far they have to **go** rather than how far they have **come**.

#### B. The Answer:

**Praise** people for the growth in their lives and recognize that everyone is still “under construction”.

*“Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth;  
A stranger, and not your own lips.” Proverbs 27:2*

God does a two-fold work in our lives which is as follows:

- **Salvation** – the work God does **for** us.

*“8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,  
9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*

Ephesians 2:8-9

- **Sanctification** – the work God does **in** us.

*“3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;  
4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,”*

I Thessalonians 4:3-4