

HOW TO BE HAPPY NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS

Strategies for Stressful Times
Rick Warren

Philippians 1:12-30

"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ!"
Philippians 1:27 (NIV)

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS . . .

1. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)

"I will praise the Lord no matter what happens." Psalm 34:1 (TLB)

Paul's Example: "I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News."
Philippians 1:12 (NLT)

ANYTIME I FACE A PROBLEM WITH FAITH . . .

• **IT'S A** "Everyone here (Roman prison), including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ." Philippians 1:13 (NLT)

• **IT'S AN** "And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God's message without fear."
Philippians 1:14 (NLT)

2. Critics: "It's true that some are preaching out of jealousy and rivalry."
Philippians 1:15 (NLT)

Companions (who care): "Others preach about Christ with pure motives. They preach because they love me, for they know I have been appointed to defend the Good News." Philippians 1:15-16 (NLT)

Competitors: "Others are insincere. They tell the message about Christ out of selfish ambition." Philippians 1:17 (NLT)

Challengers: "Others . . . stir up trouble for me while I'm in prison." Philippians 1:17

Paul's Attitude: "But it doesn't matter! The important thing is that in every way, whether for right or wrong reasons, they are preaching about Christ. So I am happy, and I will continue to be happy!" Philippians 1:18 (NCV)

"Fearlessly, no matter what your enemies may do. They will see this as a sign of their downfall, but for you it will be a clear sign from God that he is with you, and that he has given you eternal life with him." Philippians 1:28 (TLB)

"For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it."
Philippians 1:29-30 (NLT)

"No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (TLB)

3. "I will continue to rejoice. For I know that as you pray for me and the Spirit of Jesus Christ helps me, this will lead to my deliverance." Philippians 1:18-19 (NLT)

"It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death!" Philippians 1:20 (ESV)

"Do not let your happy trust in the Lord die away, no matter what happens. Remember your reward!" Hebrews 10:35 (TLB)

4. "If by continuing to live I can do more worthwhile work for Christ, then I am not sure which I should choose. I am pulled in two directions. I want very much to leave this life and be with Christ, which is a far better thing; but for your sake it is much more important that I remain alive. I am sure of this, and so I know that I will stay. I will stay on with you all, to add to your progress and joy in the faith."
Philippians 1:22-25 (GNT)

"For me to live is Christ . . . and to die is gain!" Philippians 1:21 (AMPC)

FOR ME TO LIVE IS _____
How YOU complete this sentence will determine your happiness

Next Step

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