

## INTRODUCTION

1. Phil 4:4-5 We are called to cultivate a disposition of gentle joy & then demonstrate gentle joy.
2. We need to rehearse the gospel in these matters - repentance, forgiveness & faith in Christ that perseveres in pursuit of holiness.

**1st: The Demand to Demonstrate Forbearance**

1. v5 is not optional: a command [as v4 *rejoice*]. The command - *let be known* - a passive imperative: "let this be done to & thru you" by the HS.
  - i. Gal 5:22-23 We actively demonstrate this fruit by being acted upon by HS. Diligently yielding to the HS. Be aggressively passive!
  - ii. Rm 12:1-2 - 2 passive imperatives: do not be acted on by world, but by HS
2. *let gentle spirit be known*. succeed in communicating. Mt 5:14-16 men are to see our active passivity by which God uses us.
3. To whom are we to be forbearing? *All men*. 2C 3:2; Rm 12:17,18; 1T 2:1-4; 1T 4:10; Tit 2:11; Tit 3:2.
4. Men are to look at us & see the life & power of Jesus.

**Applic #1: Gently Communicate Your Joy in the Lord to Others**

1. We are communicating creatures: body & verbal language - reveals the condition of our hearts.
2. Ask those who love you what you communicate to them. If you receive "oil of rebuke", don't let your head refuse it [Ps 141:5]. Thank Christ for gospel love from those who want you to grow in holiness & fruitful service - Phil 4:4-5