

JOYFUL, PRAYERFUL, GRATEFUL LIVING IN CHRIST

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18 - APRIL 14, 2024

The will of God: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-3

A crisp package...

in a church family context...

that describes not just what we do, but who we are.

Or, what we do *because* of who we are.

In Christ Jesus

1. This is a defining union

Romans 16:7, 11; 1 Corinthians 3:1

1 Thessalonians 4:16

2. This is a saving union

Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:12; Romans 6:4

3. This is a transforming union

2 Corinthians 5:17

4. This is a mutual union

John 14:23; Colossians 1:27; Ephesians 1:11-14;
2 Corinthians 2:11

In Christ, rejoice always

2 Corinthians 6:10 *we are ... sorrowful, yet always rejoicing.*

Luke 10:20; John 15:11; 1 Peter 1:8

In Christ, pray without ceasing

1. In Christ we are awake so that we can be spiritually alert for prayer

1 Thessalonians 5:5-6; Colossians 4:2

a. We care about the needs of our new family in Christ

Ephesians 6:18

b. We know that Christ is coming again for us

2. In Christ we have every reason to persist in faith and hope so that we don't stop praying

Luke 11:5-11; 18:1-8

3. In Christ we have God's continual presence with us so that we can pray anytime, anywhere

1 Kings 8-9

In Christ, give thanks in all circumstances

Acts 5:41; Philippians 4:6

Luke 12:7; Psalm 23:1; Romans 8:31, 39