



LIVING IN GOD'S WILL

1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18

July 16, 2023

Jon Field, Lead Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 (ESV)

- **Rejoice always**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. — 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18

But let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread Your protection over them, that those who love Your name may exult in You. — Psalm 5:11 (ESV)

I rejoice at Your word like one who finds great spoil. — Psalm 119:162 (ESV)

As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. — 2 Corinthians 7:9 (ESV)

The cypresses rejoice at you, the cedars of Lebanon ... — Isaiah 14:8 (ESV)

- **Pray without ceasing**

Rejoice always, ***pray without ceasing***, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. — 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 (ESV)

“The highest joy of prayer is not WHAT you get but WHO you get.”

- **Give thanks in all circumstances**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, ***give thanks in all circumstances***; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. — 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 (ESV)



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: Share a decision you made that now — looking back — was direction setting for your life.
- What are some of the ways that God guides us when it comes to making decisions?
- How do we hear the Holy Spirit's leading when we are discerning God's will for a choice we have to make?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 20. Why do you think Paul reminds us to “not quench the Spirit” in context with inviting us to rejoice, pray and give thanks?
- What does it mean when the Bible says to “pray without ceasing”? What does that look like in everyday life?
- How does rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks keep our hearts connected to God's heart and His Word?
- What did Pastor Jon mean when he said, “The highest joy of prayer is not WHAT you get but WHO you get.”
- What was your biggest take away from the message this week?
- Why is a Christ follower able to “give thanks in all circumstances” even when our circumstances are challenging and full of uncertainty?
- Practice memorizing this verse by repeating it to someone: *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.* — 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 (ESV)