

No Matter What!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Good News for the New Year

No matter WHAT happens this year...

God has revealed His perfect WILL for our lives in the Bible!

No Matter What by God’s Grace Learn to...

1. ALWAYS Rejoice! (v. 16)

Be cheerful no matter what (MSG); Always rejoice (NET); Always be joyful (NLT); Rejoice evermore! (KJV)

Yes, but HOW?

“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you” John 15:11

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” Romans 14:7

“...for you received the Word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit.” 1 Thessalonians 2:14

“May you be strengthened with all power, according to [Jesus’] glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy,” Colossians 1:11

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord.” Philippians 2:1

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” Philippians 4:4

How Does the Bible Spell JOY?

JESUS—OTHERS—YOU!

2. CONSTANTLY Pray! (v. 17)

Constantly pray (NET); Pray all the time (MSG); Never stop praying (NLT); Pray continually! (NIV)

Yes, but HOW?

What It Does Not Mean:

- Does not mean **NON-STOP** praying.
- Does not mean always being in a certain **POSTURE** or **PLACE** of prayer.

What It Does Mean:

- An **ACTIVE** prayer life *no matter what is happening.*
- An **ATTITUDE** of prayer *no matter where we are.*

3. IN ALL THINGS Give Thanks! (v. 17)

in everything give thanks” (NET); Be thankful in all circumstances” (NLT); give thanks in all circumstances!” (NIV); thank God no matter what happens” (MSG)

Yes, but HOW?

- **REMEMBER** who holds you in His hand and is working all things together for good.
Romans 8:28-39
- **REST** in the glorious and gracious reality that God’s majestic, mysterious, and merciful ways are greater than ours.
Romans 11:33-36; Isaiah 55:9; Job 1:21

No Matter What Happens in 2013 and Beyond

...this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

- This is God’s will *for you who are in Christ Jesus!*
Those who are truly in Christ Jesus by faith learn to obey these commands.
- This is God’s will in Christ Jesus *for you no matter who you are!*
In Christ Jesus these commands are what God’s wills for everyone here today.