

**Soul Care**  
**Part 10: A Life of Soul Care**  
**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**What is God's will for my life?**

**Our Agenda:** to live a comfortable, safe, happy and fulfilling life of material blessings NOW

**God's Agenda for Humanity:** saving & nurturing souls by drawing people into a right relationship with Himself

**Church on a Mission:** The Great Commandment & The Great Commission

**The Mission of FBC:** The purpose of First Baptist Church is to introduce people to Jesus Christ and to help people live as Christ's fully devoted followers

**God's Will for Soul Care:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Basics of 1 Thessalonians**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18:** <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

3 Present Imperatives (commands) to act NOW  
individually & corporately

**Rejoice always**

Always: at all times, under various circumstances, on every occasion

Rejoice: to be glad, to be delighted in

Joy: inner deep soul delight & gladness NOT based on circumstances

Joy

- A fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22)
- Dependent upon a relationship with God
- A supernatural choice, a deliberate response that focuses on the grace & goodness of God
- Reserved for those who are genuine Christians

## **Hebrews 12:1-2**

### **Jesus' Joy**

1. The JOY of His exaltation at the right Hand of God the Father
2. The JOY of doing the will of God the Father

### **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

**Our JOY:** My sins are forgiven! I'm going to Heaven! I'm living for Jesus!

### **Pray continually**

**Pray:** a general & common term for prayer. A personal connection with God

Does NOT mean verbal nor formal prayers

**Continually:** without stopping, unceasingly, constantly

- Staying Connected with God at All Times
- Keeping the Lines of Communication open with God
- Conscious Contact w/ God throughout the day

### **Give thanks in all circumstances**

NOT give thanks FOR all circumstances, but give thanks in (or during) all circumstances

**Give thanks:** from a grateful heart you outwardly express your thanks to God

**All circumstances:** on every occasion, in every matter

**Romans 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**Philippians 1:6** I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

### **For this is God's will for you**

- To Be Joyful Always
- To Pray Continually
- To Give Thanks in All Circumstances

**God's Will** (no definite article): God's desired intention, part of God's plan for your life

**For you:** individuals & the church

## **In Christ Jesus**

In Christ Jesus: in union with Christ

You are enabled and empowered by Christ's Spirit to live out  
God's desired intention for a life of soul care!

**Brother Lawrence:** The Practice of The Presence of God

Life Goal: Continuous Conversation with God

Life Focus: Renouncing whatever does not lead to God

A Great Sin: Ignoring God

**Live a Life of Soul Care**