

WELCOME to Grace Christian Center



Advent Week 3: JOY



Advent Season 2020
November 29-December 24

A time of Hope,
Peace, Joy, and Love



I. PAUL GOES TO EUROPE



Thessalonica



Via Egnatia Road



II. THREE P's FACING THE APOSTLES & BELIEVERS

1. PERSECUTION



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1. PERSECUTION

2. FALSE PROPHETS



II. THREE P's FACING THE APOSTLES & BELIEVERS

1. PERSECUTION
2. FALSE PROPHETS
3. PERSONAL LIVING



III. SHIFT YOUR FOCUS

1. REFOCUS ON THE WILL OF GOD

1 Thes 5:16-18 NKJV: *Rejoice always,¹⁷ pray without ceasing,¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you*

MSG: *¹⁶ Be cheerful no matter what; ¹⁷ pray all the time; ¹⁸ thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.*



III. SHIFT YOUR FOCUS

2. GIVE ROOM FOR GOD'S SPIRIT

1 Thes 5:19-21 NKJV: *Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ Test all things; hold fast what is good.*

MSG: Don't suppress the Spirit, ²⁰ and don't stifle those who have a word from the Master. ²¹ On the other hand, don't be gullible. Check out everything, and keep only what's good.



III. SHIFT YOUR FOCUS

3. WANT PEACE? STOP EVIL

1 Thes 5:22-23 NKJV *Abstain from every form of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*



III. SHIFT YOUR FOCUS

3. WANT PEACE? STOP EVIL

1 Thes 5:22-23 MSG: *Throw out anything tainted with evil. ²³ May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ.*



IV. GOD IS FAITHFUL **AND WILL HELP YOU**

1 Thes 5:23-24 NKJV: ²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.



IV. GOD IS FAITHFUL **AND WILL HELP YOU**

1 Thes 5:23-24 MSG: May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it!



Phil 1:6

NKJV: being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

MSG: There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears

