

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND HAPPY IN LIFE
LEARN HOW TO BE HAPPY NO MATTER WHAT

I. YOU CAN BE HAPPY NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR LIFE IF YOU LOOK AT EVERY PROBLEM FROM GOD'S VIEWPOINT.

Rom. 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." (NKJV)

II. YOU CAN BE HAPPY NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU NEVER LET OTHERS CONTROL YOUR ATTITUDE.

Phil. 1:15-18, "Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice." (NKJV)

From this passage we can surmise that Paul is talking about 4 kinds of people.

1. Those who are attacking his ministry. Critics
2. Those who were supporting his ministry. Comrades
3. Those who were competing with his ministry. Competitors
4. Those who were undermining his ministry. Conspirators

I. CRITICS.

Phil. 1:15, "Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife..." (NKJV)

- A. That word in Greek is the word "eris", and it means they love to argue.
- B. Happiness Hint - You really don't have to have other people's approval to be happy.
- C. What you need to do when you are criticized:
 1. Ask yourself, "Did I do what was right or the best thing to do under the circumstances?"
 2. Ask, "Did I do the best I could?"
- D. You don't need other people's permission to be happy. You are as happy as you choose to be.

II. COMRADES

Phil. 1:15, “Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill.” (NKJV)

A. Here, he is talking about the good guys.

III. COMPETITORS.

Phil. 1:16, “The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains;” (NKJV)

A. What causes this? They are ego driven.

1. How do you know when somebody is driven the wrong way? They put other people down all the time to build themselves up.

IV. CONSPIRATORS OR ENEMIES

Phil. 1:16, “The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains;” (NKJV)

A. The favorite tool of troublemakers is gossip.

1. Gossip is the number one sign of a troublemaker.

WHAT WAS PAUL’S ATTITUDE?

I. PAUL’S ATTITUDE

Phil. 1:18, “But whatever their motive for doing it, the fact remains that the Good News about Christ is being preached, and I am glad.” (TLB)

A. I am glad. To be so is to be happy.

1. Paul is saying I am not going to let other people control my attitude.

B. You do the best you can to do the right thing. Then you just say, “No matter who the critics are, who the complainers are, who the conspirators are, and who the competitors are, they’re not going to stop me from being happy.”

I can be happy no matter what happens if I never let what other people say or what other people do control my happiness.