



Grace Life Church
of Dallas

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God

Philippians 4:1-5a

Reasonableness Known to All

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Philippians 4:1-5a

Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

2 I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. 3 Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice

This is a command for the Christian

- To **always** be rejoicing
- Rejoicing **in the Lord**

We have been granted the gift of joy (Galatians 5:22), but this is a delicate fruit which must be cultivated

- Scripture (Hear, Read, Meditate, Memorize)
- The Holy Spirit

“Rejoicing in the Lord always” is a paradigm (worldview) that we must labor to maintain

- We must not allow ourselves to justify a joyless life
- And we must be stirring one another up to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together...but encouraging one another (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone

Command-*Let “be known”*

What is commanded to *be known? Reasonableness*

– What is *reasonableness*?

To who is *reasonableness to be known to? To everyone*

Context: *Stand firm in the Lord (v1)*

- Letting my reasonableness be known to everyone impacts the spiritual stability in my life & the church

What is *reasonableness*?

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone

What is *reasonableness*? *Patient, Mild, Gentle,*

Used 5 times in NT (Context/How used/Contrasted/Coupled)

1 Timothy 3:3 (Overseer) *not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money*

Contrasted with “not violent” and “not quarrelsome”

Titus 3:2 (Church) *to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.*

Contrasted with “speaking evil of no one” & “quarreling” and coupled with “showing perfect courtesy toward all people”

James 3:17 *But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.*

Contrasted with earthly wisdom v14 “bitter jealousy & selfish ambition” and coupled with “peaceable, open to reason, full of mercy”

1 Peter 2:18 *Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust*

Contrasted with “unjust” and coupled with good

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone

Reasonableness: Patient, gentleness, meekness, perfect courtesy, peaceable, open to reason, full of mercy, good

Contrasted: violent, quarrelsome, jealousy, selfish ambition

What is *reasonableness*? A meek, gentle mercy

Note: This is not merely an inward attitude to be cultivated, but something expressed in our lives so much so that we are to be “known” by it.

Who is it to be known to? *Everyone*

- Not just those who agree with you, who are nice/kind to you
- True self-examination: In difficult situations or when people do not agree with you (in this scenario)

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone

Reasons we justify lacking in reasonableness:

- “I am right”
 - 2 Corinthians 10:1 *I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ*
 - You may be right, but you have allowed pride to creep in also
- “I can’t just overlook or condone sin”
 - “I just tell it like it is”
 - Galatians 6:1 *“You who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness”*
- “I’m just passionate” or “It’s just my personality”
 - Our passion should help us persist in our reasonableness
 - You are a “new creation” in Christ (2 Cor 5:17), and we are to “put on the new self created after the likeness of God” (Eph 4:24)

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone

We will not just respond this way (Like our joy, we must cultivate this attitude in ourselves)

- Matthew 18:23-35 Unforgiving servant
- Hope: “He had mercy on us” therefore, we must have mercy on others (spirit of reasonableness: meek, gentle mercy)
- Gospel centered attitudes, relationships and responses
 - The vertical determining the horizontal (not the circumstance or other person)

Lacking in reasonableness brings spiritual instability in yourself and those around you

And

Demonstrating, time and time again, reasonableness to others magnifies the gospel and produces spiritual stability in all

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone

Beatitudes: Matthew 5

V3 “Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

V5 “Blessed are the **mEEK**, for they shall inherit the earth.

V7 “Blessed are the **merciful**, for they shall receive mercy

V9 “Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they shall be called sons of God.