

<sup>2</sup> I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup> Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. <sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. <sup>9</sup> Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

### **Questions:**

- 1) Comment on Pastor Griffiths' statement that there are believers who are Christians in theory but atheists in practice. Comment on the view that there are believers that are imagining that nothing in their lives needs to change given the biblical truths.
- 2) Discuss what it means to agree in the Lord. Can we ever disagree in the Lord?
- 3) Comment on Pastor Griffiths' statement that the apostle Paul enlists people of the church to help two believers in dealing with their conflict. At what point during your personal disagreements with other believers would it be appropriate to seek counsel from other believers?
- 4) Discuss the distinction between happiness and Christian joy.
- 5) Pastor Griffiths pointed out our commitment to one another is for eternity. In your Bible study group, in the church, are people you will be spending your eternity with. Discuss how you can help one another with this commitment, what relationships need to be forged or repaired, who else you would like to join you in eternity.
- 6) Discuss how and why it is well with your soul.
- 7) Discuss the statement that if we are truly rejoicing in the Lord, our joy is not in our circumstances, and that there is no reason for aggression.
- 8) Discuss the statement that the apostle Paul commands us to rejoice in the Lord. Why is it commanded, not simply suggested?
- 9) What intellectual junk food are you allowing yourself to consume and how does it affect your intellectual and spiritual health in the short and long term? What effect would it have on your family and other believers you are in contact with?
- 10) Discuss the breadth of consequences to Christians who isolate themselves and their children from the world. Why do so many believing children walk away from their faith when they leave for university? What is a better way to disciple these young people?