



THEME:

God's Affection Toward Us > Philippians 1:8

CONVERSATION:

1. Have you ever gone to ridiculous lengths just to be in the vicinity or presence of someone famous?
 - a. Why does it matter so much to us to be in the *physical* presence of someone we think important?
 - b. Why not be satisfied to just see them on TV or at a distance?
2. Tell a story about a time when someone did something significant for or to be with you that showed you how much they care.
 - a. What was it about what they did that meant so much to you?
3. If you think about your day-to-day attitude toward God, which of the following do you think is a more accurate description? :
 - a. **I** have made/make more effort to "get to" [or get the attention of] *God*
or
 - b. **God** has made/makes more effort to be with [or even just get the attention of] *me*
 - i. Why do you see it that way? Whether or not you said "b," if that dynamic was/is the true one, what effect would this knowledge have on your life?
4. Check out [Philippians 4:4](#) >
[Rejoice in the Lord](#) always. I will say it again: [Rejoice!](#)

And [Romans 8:38-39](#) (MSG)>

[Nothing] fazes us [because Jesus loves us](#). I'm absolutely convinced that [nothing](#)—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love [because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us](#).

- a. Based on the description of God's love for us in Romans, is Paul's command to "rejoice always" unreasonable?
 - i. How does [would] knowing this [Christ's affection toward you] naturally incite joy?

RESPOND:

How can you apply these verses above >> that is, what **specific things** currently on your mind or upcoming can you [release and rejoice in](#) (or in spite of) "[because Jesus loves us](#)"?

[Pray for each other about these areas.](#)