

FOUR ESSENTIALS FOR A JOYFUL LIFE – PART TWO

Reference: **Philippians 1:12-26**

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Essential One... Paul had a **divine perspective** on his circumstances. **verses twelve** through **fourteen**

Essential Two... Paul focused on _____ really _____, and what really matters is the gospel of Jesus Christ. **verses fifteen** through **eighteen** (see screen)

Because of Paul's imprisonment, more and more Christians on the outside were being emboldened to evangelize. In this section Paul divided those who preached the gospel into two basic categories:

Group One were those individuals who preached the gospel but did it for all the _____ i.e. his **detractors**.

Group Two were those individuals who preached the gospel but did it for all the _____ i.e. his **supporters**. **verse seventeen** (see screen)

But **Group One** had some serious problems:

- These people were _____. **verse fifteen** (see screen)
- These people were _____. **verse fifteen** cont. (see screen)
- These people had _____. **verse sixteen** (see screen)
- These people had a desire to _____. **verse sixteen** cont. (see screen)

Six basic steps on how to handle personal criticism:

Step One... _____ between constructive criticism and destructive criticism.

Reference: **Proverbs 17:10** (see screen)

It is helpful to ask ourselves three important questions:

- _____ gave the criticism?

Questions we need to ask about the critic:

- 1) Do we have _____ for this person?
- 2) Does this person have a _____ of criticizing?
- 3) Is this person a _____ or just a critic?

- _____ was the criticism given?

- _____ was this criticism given?

Step Two... Don't take ourselves _____.

Step Three... Remember some extraordinarily good people were _____.

Reference: **Matthew 11:19; Mark 2:16** and **John 8:48**

Step Four... If _____ have the same opinion, then we should consider the criticism

Step Five... Wait for _____ to prove our critics wrong.

Step Six... This step comes in two parts: an attitude part and an action part.

- Watch our own _____ toward the person who is critical of us.
- Refuse to _____.
Reference: **I Peter 2:21-23** (see screen)

verse eighteen (see screen)

Paul summed up his feelings toward his critics in **verse eighteen** and said what mattered to him most was the _____.