

## SINGLE ALLIANCE

### Overcoming the Problems of Life- Pt. 1

#### I. Introduction

- A. Last week we finished up the Knowing God series
- B. This week I am starting a new series called, “Overcoming the Problems of Life”
- C. Philippians chapter 4 contains pearls of wisdom concerning overcoming problems. We will be looking at this chapter the next four weeks
- D. I have good news for you this morning. You will only face two problems in your life. Problems with people and problems with circumstances. The problems Satan send he uses people and circumstances.
- E. Text: **Philippians 4:1-5**

#### II. People problems

##### A. Philippians 4:1- Bringing Correction

- 1. Paul uses 6 words that speaks of closeness and connection
  - a. They are progressive in their intensity
  - b. He uses these because he is about to bring correction
- 2. When we are in conflict with a believer we need to remember we are dealing with family. If we are in conflict with an unbeliever you should remember they are blind and you are not! Don't fight with blind people!
- 3. We must earn the right to bring correction- **Eph. 4:15**
  - a. **Prov. 27:6**- People we are to correct
  - b. **Prov. 9:8**- People we are not to correct
  - c. You must know someone to know which is which

##### B. Philippians 4:2- Be of the same mind

- 1. Paul now addresses two ladies that are in an active fight that is affecting the church. I would not want to be named in the Bible for fighting!
  - a. Euodias- prosperous

- b. Syntyche- pleasant acquaintance
- c. These two ladies are in contention. They are acting like their names- **“You odious!”** and **“Soon Touchy”**
- 2. Paul beseeches them- He puts them in a time out!
- 3. He tells them to be of the **same mind**
  - a. How can we be of the same mind when we disagree?  
We need to get out of our mind and get into the mind of Christ!  
**1 Cor. 2:16**
  - b. The Word of God is the mind of Christ
    - 1. We need check our attitudes, thoughts, actions, and words at the door of the Word. If we each will do this we will come out with the same mind which will help us solve our differences! **This is key #1 in overcoming people problems**
    - 2. **Romans 12:18**- As far as it lies in us, we are live in peace. Sometimes we need to just refuse to argue and let the person have their way. You can win the argument and lose in the end. You must know when and what battles to choose in life.

**C. Philippians 4:3- Don’t lose ground!**

- 1. One of Satan’s tactics to throw us off is to get us into petty arguments with people. When we do that we act like children. If you ever watch children it is possible to get into an argument with them and act their age!
- 2. Both of these ladies had been greatly used by the Lord to help Paul and another future bishop of Rome- Clement. Now they have lowered themselves and are acting like spoiled children!
- 3. You have come too far and have risen to high to stoop to petty fighting and offence with others.

**D. Philippians 4:4- Rejoice changes your nasty attitude!**

- 1. **This is the #2 key to overcoming conflict with people.**  
Choosing to rejoice and praise God will remove your nasty

attitude. A nasty attitude does not last long in God's presence!

2. Paul had to repeat himself twice because he knew people would nod their head and say, "Good idea" and not do it! He said to do it and do it now. When you realize you have a nasty attitude towards someone you should immediately start praising God.

#### E. **Philippians 4:5- Shut up and listen!**

1. We need to let our moderation – willing to listen- known to all people. We tend to let everyone know our problem and what someone did and said to us.
2. I am amazed at the number of Christians that have been in the Word a long time are so quick to open their mouths and gossip and talk when they are having problems with people and when decisions are made they do not like!
3. The number one thing that will cause you to fail when dealing with a people problem is to shoot your mouth off!
4. **Key #3 to overcoming people problems is we need to shut up and listen.**
  - a. **James 1:19-** slow to speak, quick to listen, slow to anger
  - b. A person who is angry a lot and real fast does not listen!
  - c. One of the most lacking skills in people is the skill of listening.
  - d. Key to listening- Do not interrupt in word or in your mind.
  - e. Homework- For the rest of the day do not interrupt anyone in word or in your mind.

### III. **Closing**

#### 1. **Keys to overcoming people problems**

- a. Get the mind of Christ
- b. Praise God and rejoice
- c. Shut up and listen!
- d. Pray