Summer Essentials

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." [Philippians 1:3-5]

1. Joy comes by remembering the good in life

"I thank my God every time I remember you." [Philippians 1:3]

"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." [Philippians 1:6]

2. Joy comes by recognizing God is at work in each of us

"It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus." [Philippians 1:7-8]

3. Joy comes through a relationship with other believers

"Dear, dear Corinthians, I can't tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. We didn't fence you in. The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way. I'm speaking as plainly as I can and with great affection. Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively!" [2 Corinthians 6:11-13] "And this is my prayer..." [Philippians 1:9]

4. Joy comes when we pray for other people

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more." [Philippians 1:9]

• He prays they will grow in love

"So that you may be able to discern what is best." [Philippians 1:10]

• He prays they will grow in discernment

"...and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." [Philippians 1:10]

• He prays they will be pure and blameless

"...filled with the fruit of righteousness" [Philippians 1:11]

• He prays they will be fruitful