



## 6 Steps to Spiritual Maturity (Part 1)

### Philippians 4:1-9

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**INTRODUCTION** — Why chapter 4?

The Context — Paul's Desire For Them (v. 1)

*“Therefore, ... in this way stand firm in the Lord, ...”*

Paul desires for them to be **STABLE** in their Christian life.

The Compassion ... Paul's Delight In Them (v. 1)

*“my beloved brethren”*

*“whom I long to see”*

*“my joy”*

*“and crown”*

*“my beloved”*

Paul knows that people will always respond more readily to exhortation if they are preceded by godly **ENCOURAGEMENT**.

**LESSON** — 6 Steps to Spiritual Maturity, Part 1 (4:1-9)

**I. CULTIVATE HARMONY AMONG YOURSELVES** vs. 2-3

*“I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord.”*

- The Problem — What is going on?

- The Plea — What should they do?

## II. **CONTINUE** IN A SPIRIT OF JOY v. 4

*“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!”*

- Our Circumstances — What makes us happy?
  
- The Command — What should make us happy?

## III. **CONCENTRATE** ON THE LORD’S PRESENCE v. 5

*“Let your **gentle spirit** be known to all men. The Lord **is near**.”*

- The Meaning — What is a gentle spirit?
  
- The Means — How can we remember the Lord is near?

*Habakkuk shows us the way  
(1:2-11; 3:16)*

1. He remembers that God is **ETERNAL**. 1:12a

*“Are you not from everlasting, ...”*

2. He remembers that God is **SELF-EXISTENT**. 1:12b

*“... O Lord, my God, ...”*

3. He remembers that God is **HOLY**. 1:12c

*“... my Holy One ...”*

4. He remembers that God is **FAITHFUL**. 1:12d

*“We will not die.”*

5. He remembers that God is **SOVEREIGN**. 1:12e

*“You, O Lord, have appointed them to judge; And You, O Rock, have appointed them to judge.”*