

## From the Pastor's Desk

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice" (Phil. 4:4). Paul wasn't sitting in some ivory tower, spinning up practical theories. He wasn't lounging on some beach in the Mediterranean, eating a falafel and drinking iced tea. This was a man who was incarcerated, yet he was able to say, "Rejoice in the Lord always." Paul wrote that when he was under house arrest. There was the possibility that he might be acquitted, or that he might be beheaded. He didn't know what his future held. Yet he gave us this command: Rejoice in the Lord!

The Holy Spirit commands us to rejoice ALWAYS, even (or should I say, especially) when we're facing adversity, sickness, death, lost wages, missed graduations, or self-isolation. This doesn't mean we shouldn't feel sorrow in such times or ask God to bring relief. "Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD!" (Ps. 70:1). It just means we can maintain our joy in spite of them, knowing that God uses such things to refine our character; to help keep our minds focused on things above; to prepare us to comfort others more effectively (2 Cor. 1:3-4); and to enhance our message. We have our greatest impact when people watch us go through pain and suffering with our faith intact. So rejoice in the Lord always! God is on his throne. He loves you. He is watching out for you. He is working all things together for the good of those that love Him and have been called according to His purpose.

We have some great services planned for Sunday, April 19:

Spanish (9:00 AM): "These people who have caused trouble all over the world"

Acts 17:1-15 Pastor Adolfo Ocampo

Watch Live at [www.facebook.com/Primera-Iglesia-Bautista-de-Flushing-NYC-Ministerio-Hispano-103654884345775/](http://www.facebook.com/Primera-Iglesia-Bautista-de-Flushing-NYC-Ministerio-Hispano-103654884345775/)

Chinese (11:00 AM): "Renewed Life in Christ"

Romans 12:1-21 Pastor Shih Wei Chiang

Watch Live at [www.facebook.com/fbcflushingchinese/](http://www.facebook.com/fbcflushingchinese/)

English (11:00 AM): "The Calm After the Storm"

Mark 4:35-41 Pastor Gary Domiano

Watch Live at [www.facebook.com/fbcflushing/](http://www.facebook.com/fbcflushing/)

## News of the Church Alive

(1) In an effort to stay connected with one another during this time of self-isolation, we have decided to launch a YouTube channel for FBCF. Here is the URL: <http://bit.ly/FBCFYouTube>. While we are streaming all our services and devotionals in real time on our Facebook pages, we understand that many of you do not have an account on Facebook. So we have decided to use our YouTube channel as a venue to post our Sunday services and devotionals **after** they initially air on our Facebook Page. To stay connected to our YouTube page for the latest uploads, please make sure you subscribe to the channel.

(2) Our newly formed task force called M.O.M (FBCF Ministry of Mercy) is doing amazing things! If you are aware of any in the FBCF community that are in need of groceries and unable to get them, please contact our Minister of Congregational Life, Maria Cheung at [maria@fbcflushing.org](mailto:maria@fbcflushing.org); 646-915-6075.

(3) Lauren Moy has graciously offered two free job search webinars for FBCF members (18 years and older). If you have a friend or family member who can benefit, you may invite them also. Lauren is a certified Career

Coach and Associate Director of the Graduate Business Career Relations at Hofstra University. For more information and to register, click here: <https://forms.gle/ankryCMRwGN9Fod2A>

Choosing Faith Over Fear,  
Pastor Gary Domiano  
Mark 4:40