

IN TOUCH

MAKING THE BEST OUT OF THE WORST

Dear Friend:

Life has its challenging days, weeks, or months – no surprise to you. I don't know if you have ever read the children's book: *Alexander and His Terrible, Horrible, Awful, No Good Very Bad Day* but it is a humorous look at a boy who is having a very bad day. The book was written for children but I am sure every mom or dad, grandma or grandpa who reads it learns a lesson just as much as the child!

In *Philippians 1:12-27a* the Apostle Paul writes a very encouraging lesson about how to make the best out of the worst. The worst day, month, circumstance, or anything else that may "set you back". Paul writes to the Philippians while under house arrest in Rome. This is his second imprisonment and he feels pretty certain it will be his last, death may be imminent. Even though he is staring death in the face, he passes along three things that can help anyone make the best out of the worst.

First thing: Look for the positive in every problem. In verses 12-14 Paul says: "Although I am in chains, the great news is that what has happened has served to advance the gospel. Everyone in Caesar's Palace is hearing about Jesus". What a positive attitude. What a "best in the worst" scenario. What do I mean? Paul took a very big problem and turned it into a tremendous opportunity to share his faith. The second thing Paul did: he warned the Philippians: expect opposition whenever doing God's work. Satan does all he can to deter God's work from getting done. He will use people and circumstances to discourage you, but Paul says: "Expect it and keep going anyway". Third, in verses 20 & 27a Paul says: "Whatever happens conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel". In other words: live-out a godly life, no matter what happens. This sure is hard sometimes, but it is never impossible. May God help you in every circumstance make the best out of the worst.

In Christ's love, Pastor Mike

Events: Baptism this Sunday

Prayer Needs: Mike Ripley (recovering from severe COVID), Marie Lubuda (Tricia Bhat's mom), Milton & Erica Pacheco (Missionaries in Thailand)