



*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

One of the great maxims of Salesian Spirituality is to live in the present moment. At the end of the school year, though, there's a tendency to spend more time looking ahead - countdowns! summer! college! - than being present. Families of graduates smile through the bittersweet moments of commencement knowing their daughter will soon be miles away; the temptation to cling to the past looms large. Taking a deep breath, seeing the good and the grace of the present moment, celebrating the past, and looking to the future with optimism all at once can be a challenge.

In his letter to the Thessalonians, St. Paul gives us good advice for cherishing each moment: rejoice in the gift of God's love for us, the holy friendships we have nurtured, and the growth of our minds through our education; pray for our friendship with God to grow and for God to use us as a balm for our world; and, finally, give thanks for God's loving care and the many blessings in our lives.

This joyful, prayerful, grateful presence is our calling, it is how we Live Jesus. May this summer be a time for you to relish the precious moments, to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and to step out with courage to bring God's love to our world.

Live Jesus!



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