



# Rejoice in the Lord

Pensacola, FL 32523-9160 • U.S.A.

a ministry of **PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**

## Some Things Never Change

— A Word from Pastor Jeff Redlin —

Recently, while reading Psalm 119, I noticed a word that was used continually. In fact, it was repeated over 20 times. It is the word *precept*. I felt like I had a decent understanding of the word but wanted to be sure, so I looked in the dictionary. The first dictionary I used was a modern-day dictionary. It defined *precept* as “a general rule intended to regulate behavior or thought.” Unsatisfied that I had a truly accurate definition, I went to the library and found an old dictionary. It was first published in the 1930s. It’s huge. There, the word *precept* is defined in a way that, I believe, is a more accurate reflection of its biblical definition. The old Webster’s dictionary says that *precept* is “an authoritative command; order; mandate.” The modern definition conveys the idea of a general suggestion or of an intention that would be nice if it were followed. Not the old Webster. It communicates the idea that this is no mere recommendation; this is a command.

Our lives become a confusing mess when we begin to treat God’s laws and commandments as mere suggestions or recommendations. How can one learn to take a good path and strongly reject a false one? Only by receiving the Word of God with the authority and finality with which it is intended to be received. The Psalmist said:

**Through thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.** *Psalm 119:104*

Much has changed throughout history, but the Word of God and its precepts have not. Because its Author remains the same, so does its truth. Are you looking

at the Word of God and its principles as a recommendation? Remember, the Bible is not like a dictionary, subject to change with the times. While many things change, His precepts are not to be named among them.

*Rejoice in the Lord* has been proclaiming the truth of God’s Word for over 40 years. As this year draws to a close, will you help us meet our operating expenses? Your tax-deductible gift before the end of this year will help keep *Rejoice* on the air and carry the blessings of an unchanging God to people all around the world. Your prayers and financial support help forward the mission of this ministry. Send your gift today.

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*"Thank you for blessing me every Sunday evening with your beautiful music, encouraging words, and inspiring messages." —California*

*"I love, love, love watching your program every week. The music and messages always touch my heart." —Michigan*

*"Just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate your services, traditional songs, and wonderful sermons." —Michigan*

*"At age 96, I have been singing those familiar hymns for many, many years. The lyrics convey deep spiritual truth. Pastor Redlin's messages are inspiring and always contain a challenging conclusion. Next Sunday, we'll be back to watch Rejoice in the Lord." —Washington*

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Pastor Jeff Redlin

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