

PHILIPPIANS

The Power of Perspective



UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
DURHAM, NC

DISCUSSION GUIDE

PHILIPPIANS 4:1-7 - THE PERSPECTIVE THAT PRODUCES PEACE

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R_____ Controversy (v. 1-3)

As much as possible, we should make peace and resolving things that hinder it.

1 John 4:12 "No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

R_____ Frequently (v. 4)

Paul is telling them to rejoice not in something random but to rejoice in the Lord.

Billy Sunday once said, "Don't look as if your Christianity hurts you. If you have no joy, there is a leak in your Christianity somewhere."

R_____ Geniality (v. 5)

Geniality means warmth, kindness, and friendliness.

Gentleness means sweet reasonableness.

Fruit of the spirit: Love, joy, peace, long-suffering.

R_____ Anxiety (v. 6-7)

Paul is not saying don't be concerned about life or to be lazy, but he says be anxious for nothing.

Anxiety is when your mind is divided between legitimate thoughts and destructive thoughts.

James 1:8 "A double-minded man is unstable in all of his ways."

The cure for worry is to redirect your energy and replace your anxiety.

How to have peace? (v. 6-7)

- Prayer
- Supplication
- Thanksgiving
- Requests

KOINONIA QUESTIONS:

1. Paul urges an unnamed person in Philippians 4:3 to help mediate the dispute between two women. What conflict resolution skills do you have?
2. How can a spirit of rejoicing help combat stressful and anxious situations?
3. What role does allowing "your gentleness to be evident to all" (v.5) play in creating unity and reducing stress in a community?
4. How does prayer play a part in bringing God's peace?
5. Why is it essential to come to God not just with a request but with thankfulness?

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