

Philippians 4:1-7

Enjoying the Peace of God

This chapter begins with Paul handling a disagreement, and then moves into an explanation of how to enjoy God's peace.

> Euodia and Syntyche were great servants of God, but they apparently did not get along (vv. 2-3). Think over our previous lessons (especially Phil. 2:1-4); what advice would you offer them? Ask them to see if they are being selfish in any way or failing to put others first. Tell of God's desire to use them as a team.

> In verse 4, Paul emphasizes the need for Christians to rejoice. Name five blessings you can rejoice over: our salvation, family, church, friends, summertime(!), etc.

> Why is it important for a Christian to be known as a reasonable (gentle, gracious) person? We represent Christ. Being gracious, even if we have a reason to be mad, shows trust in Christ.

> God wants us to bring all of our concerns to Him in prayer. How does this give us the peace that is promised in verse 7? Giving things to God means we don't have to worry about them anymore. When God is carrying our burdens, we're left with His peace.

Application

We all face days when our plans get ruined, people frustrate us, or simply nothing seems to go right. Yet, as believers, God says it is possible to maintain an attitude of rejoicing even through the most difficult moments of life. Do not forget:

- Our loving God is always in control, so He is worthy to be trusted in any circumstance we face.
- When we trust God and give Him our burden, He gives us a peace that goes beyond understanding.

If you are facing a circumstance that is overwhelming you, replace the burden with peace by trusting in God!

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