

SMALL GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Should circumstances determine whether we have peace in our hearts? Why or why not?
2. What is the difference between peace with God and the peace of God?
3. How does the peace of God in our lives draw others to Christ?
4. How can we rejoice during tragedy or suffering?
5. How does worry rob us of the peace of God?
6. Are you a friend or enemy of God? Can others tell which one?

SERMON NOTES

MAY I HAVE SOME PEACE, PLEASE

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

THE CONTEXT

- 1) Philippi was the first city in _____ to hear the Gospel of Jesus from Paul.
- 2) Paul's letter to the Philippians is a paradox because it is about a man in _____ who is rejoicing!
- 3) With Christ we are not _____ our circumstances, but _____ them.

PEACE WITH GOD

Romans 5:1 (CSB)

¹ Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 1) Everyone is either an _____ or a _____ of God. (James 2:23, 4:4) Which are you?
- 2) _____ GOD _____ PEACE
_____ GOD _____ PEACE

See also Colossians 1:20

THE PEACE OF GOD

Philippians 4:7 (CSB)

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

- 1) The peace of God in our lives as Christians is a major _____ to those who don't know Jesus.
- 2) The peace of God _____ our hearts and minds from being broken by the fallen world around us.

HOW DO WE GET THE PEACE OF GOD IN OUR LIVES?

FOUR STEPS:

STEP ONE: _____

Philippians 4:4 (CSB)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

- 1) _____ of God is the key to rejoicing.
- 2) This rejoicing doesn't mean we are never _____, but we have an inner joy in the Lord independent of our situation.

STEP TWO: _____

Philippians 4:5 (CSB)

⁵ Let your graciousness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

- 1) We are not to be _____, but _____.
- 2) A _____ answer turns away anger, but a harsh word stirs up wrath. (Proverbs 15:1)
- 3) The return of Christ could happen anytime, so don't waste time and opportunity – we may be the _____ some people ever see!

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

STEP THREE: _____

Philippians 4:6a (CSB)

⁶ Don't worry about anything, ...

- 1) Worrying does not take away tomorrow's _____, it takes away today's _____.
- 2) If you look at the world, you'll be _____.
If you look within, you'll be _____.
but if you look at Christ, you'll be at _____.
– Corrie Ten Boom

Verses on Worry: 1 Peter 5:7, Matthew 6:25-34, Matthew 11:28-30

STEP FOUR: _____

Philippians 4:6b (CSB)

...but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

- 1) Prayer – General prayer as in _____ and praise.
- 2) Petition – Prayer for the needs of _____.
- 3) Thanksgiving – The proper _____ in prayer.
- 4) Requests – Asking God for our _____ needs.

Verses on Prayer: Romans 12:12, Ephesians 6:18, 1 Timothy 2:1
Verses on the Peace of God: Psalm 34:14, John 14:27, John 16:33, Romans 8:6, Ephesians 2:14-17