

How we can experience the peace of God in stressful times.

Phil. 4:4-9

December 4-5, 2010

In this passage the Apostle Paul describes four actions we must take if we are going to experience the peace of God.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

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

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

(Phi 4:4-9 ESV)

1) The first action we must take if we are to experience the peace of God is to Rejoice Completely.

Rejoice = Celebrating something that has _____.

_____ has happened.

³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." (Act 2:36 ESV)

2) The second action we must take if we are going to experience the peace of God is we must Pray Expectantly.

The Lord is at hand; = near, close,

So do not _____.

Prayer = _____.

Supplication = _____.

Thanksgiving = _____.

The peace of God is an _____ peace.

Before we can have the peace of God we must have peace _____ God.

3) The third action we must take if we are to experience the peace of God is to Think Rightly.

Think = _____, _____, _____.

Paul is saying, no more _____ thinkin’

We think first, and then we act.

²⁰ And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him.

²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,

²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

(Mar 7:20-23 ESV)

What do you have to change, get rid of, to help you think rightly?

4) The fourth action we must take if we are to experience the peace of God is to Live Faithfully.

Learned = Paul’s instruction

Received = Paul’s encouragement

Heard = Paul’s reputation

Seen = Paul’s credibility

Make it a practice to live faithfully and you will not only experience the peace of God but the God of peace will be with you, even in stressful times.

Conclusion: How we Rejoice, Pray, Think and Live can bring us the peace of God today.