



# Philippians 4

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- I. A mature Christian is able to Stand Fast v1
- II. Differences v2-5
  - A. There were, are, and will always be differences within the Church v2
  - B. Those who are mature are able to help those who have been overtaken by their differences v3
    - i. Because our names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life v3
    - ii. Because we always have something we can rejoice in v4
    - iii. Because our life should exemplify the gentleness and humility Christ has shown towards us v5
- III. Differences, not having unity in Christ, produces anxiety in the life of believers v6-7
  - A. What the attitude of Christ develops in us v6b-7
    - i. A life of bringing our needs to the Lord in situations, asking for His perspective v4b
    - ii. singing praises to the Lord in any situation v6c
    - iii. A peace which passes understanding that guards our hearts v7
  - B. How we should think, and what we should think on and fill our minds with v8
  - C. What we should do v9
- IV. We Should then Serve the Lord v10-20
  - A. Serving the Lord from our natural and spiritual gifts v10
  - B. Serving the Lord teaches us how to be content v11-13
  - C. Serving the Lord blesses others v14-16
  - D. What's more important than giving or receiving v17
  - E. God supplies our needs from His riches v18-20
- V. Our final command from Philippians, Greet every saint v21-23
  - A. We should be kind and hospitable to the household of God v21
  - B. Even to those we've never met v22

## Philippians 4:1-5

The Christian who has been growing Spiritually, Paul says that even the mature Christian can go through season of differences with others within the Church. Paul encourages those who find themselves or see others who have conflicts or separate themselves from one another because of their differences to help them to be restored so that they may continue to run and walk out their calling that the Lord has called them to. Paul encourages that we should have the unity of Christ and assist others in having the same mind because all our names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life, the one who's mind we should have esteeming others as better than ourselves. And that no matter our differences we always have a reason to rejoice, and we are to focus on such things, and to be gentle in our response to others.

### Study Questions:

Who are Euodia and Syntyche?

Why was it necessary for Paul to specifically encourage these two women to live in harmony with one another?

What was the subject of their harmony to be in?

What does it mean to have unity in the Lord?

What does the term labored refer to within the Church?

Who is the true companion Paul refers to?

What did Paul call them to do?

How could they help Euodia and Syntyche live in a spirit of like mindedness in Christ?

What does this show us that our responsibility is within the Church towards others?

What does workers refer to within the Church?

What does this show us that our responsibility is within the Church as believers?

## Philippians 4:6-9

Paul calls the believer to be anxious for nothing, that an attitude and mind of Christ removes Anxiety from the life of the individual. One of the largest anxieties within the Church today is from other Christians placing unbiblical standards for how the individual comes to Christ and how they grow spiritually, and so this has caused un-needed anxiety in the Church today. Paul tells us three simple steps on how to remove anxiety from our lives, we pray, sing praises to the Lord, we allow the armor of God to protect our hearts and minds.

Our minds we can protect by what we think about, and the Spirit does the rest, Paul said in Philippians 4:8 what our minds are to be set on, and placing our thoughts on these things takes us from anxiety to God's peace. In Philippians 4:9, because we have set our minds on the things of verse 8 we then do the things of verse 9. We as Christians we have received the Word of God from those who have set a good pattern and example to us of how we walk out the Christian life and see we should imitate these things Paul says in verse 9.

### Study Questions:

What does it mean to rejoice?

When are we to rejoice?

How can we rejoice even during trials and disappointments?

What causes Paul to rejoice during his trials?

How are we to respond to others we may have differences with?

How has the Lord responded to us by His Spirit with gentleness?

How can our gentle spirit be known to all men?

What does it mean to be anxious?

Is verse 6 a suggestion?

What does Paul say is the opposite of anxiety?

How do we receive God's Peace?

What are some things we can do in our lives to cancel out the anxiety from situations and circumstances of life?

What is prayer good for?

Why is it important to ask God's perspective on things?

What is singing praise to God good for?

What is important about acknowledging that God is in control?

What is a key characteristic of God's Peace?

What should we think about?

What should we not think about?

What things should we do?

## Philippians 4:10-23

The purpose for why Paul wrote, Paul thanks the Philippians for the care which they have shown to him in his journey's and in his care of the Gospel. And that now that the Philippians are once again able to share with Paul, he thanks them that they have once again returned to care to him, and he encourages that they continue in the things that brought them to the maturity that they have. Paul encourages them to learn from his example of knowing how to abase and to abound, and to be content in whatever their situations. From being content the believer is then able to be gracious in their hospitality and greeting of other Christians which is a command here of all believers, thinking of how to show favor to others because God has shown His favor to us.

### Study Questions:

What is Paul's purpose for writing the letter to the Philippians?

What lesson can we learn from Paul in verses 10-20?

What is easier to have need or to abound?

What is Paul doing that he needs strength for?

What things is Paul confident that the Lord will strengthen him for?

What purpose does Jesus give strength to us for?

What pleases the Lord to see His children do?

What does Paul desire for the Philippians from their generosity?

Why does Paul continue to minister and care for the Philippians?

Who supplies all our needs?

From where does the Lord supply us with our needs?

What is the last command Paul gives to the Philippians?

Being content with our situations, what does it allow and produce in the life of a believer?

Who should the believer especially greet and be hospitable towards?

Were Caesar's family most likely strangers or good friends of the Philippians?

How far should our greetings and hospitality go?

Why should we greet and be hospitable towards even those we don't know?