

Peace of God
Philippians 4:1-7

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I. Stand fast. *Philippians 4:1*

To **stand fast** is a verb that means to *remain in the same position or to refuse to abandon one's opinion or _____*. (i.e., "keeping the faith").

- The word for the crown that Paul used for these believers refers to the crown given to an _____ who had won the race.

Jesus is the King of kings, and the Philippian Christians were Paul's _____ because of their example of serving Christ as they remained in the Lord.

II. United in the work of the Gospel. *Philippians 4:2-3*

During a disagreement, if both sides become like-minded, die to themselves, serve the Lord, and seek the Lord's wisdom, then love can cover a _____ of sins and offenses. **1 Peter 4:8**

- No matter who the **true companion** was in **Philippians 4:3**, Paul hoped that this person could help these women _____ and become like-minded, die to themselves, and serve the Lord.

"If you had to have your whole life summed up in one sentence, would you like it to be summed up like _____ or those other two women?"

(David Guzik)

III. Our witness to others. *Philippians 4:4-5*

We tend to view our problems as too big at times because we have a _____ perspective about the true identity of Jesus.

- There is an old hymn that says to trust and obey for there is no other way to be _____ in Jesus.

"A rejoicing spirit is a gentle spirit and a healing balm to the church and the _____." (Hughes)

IV. Authentic prayer provides the peace of God. *Philippians 4:6-7*

Paul remained pliable to the leading from the Holy Spirit. Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of _____.

- When we pray, we are _____ the Creator God of the universe, and nothing is too difficult for our God.

Supplication is seeking, _____, entreating, entreaty. **James 4:2**

- A person must be saved by God's _____ first because no one can experience God's **peace** until they first receive God's _____.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

1. Read **Isaiah 9:6**. Discuss the five names of the Messiah. **Judges 13:17-18, Jeremiah 32:17-18, Revelation 1:8, Colossians 2:9, Colossians 1:16, Philippians 4:6-8, John 14:27**
2. Read **Philippians 4:1**. What does it mean to **stand fast**? What were the two types of crowns spoken of during the sermon? What type of crown did Paul refer to with these Christians? **2 Timothy 4:7, Hebrews 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 9:24-25, Revelation 6:2, 1 Peter 1:3-5**
3. Read **Philippians 4:2-3**. According to the sermon, how can Christians solve disagreements? Who would you rather be known as, the two women who disagreed or Clement? How should Christians work out their disagreements? **Acts 15:36-41, 1 Peter 4:8, 2 Timothy 4:11, Matthew 18:15-17**
4. Read **Philippians 4:4-5**. How can our outlook on the circumstances of life be used as a witness for Christ? Why do Christians sometimes view their problems as bigger than our Lord? **Hebrews 11:1-6, Matthew 5:16, Proverbs 3:5-6**
5. Read **Philippians 4:6-7**. Describe how a believer can enjoy and keep the peace of God. **John 14:27, John 14:1-6, John 16:33, Isaiah 26:3, Colossians 1:21, Romans 5:1-5, John 17:3**
6. Read **Isaiah 9:3-5**. How is Jesus our liberator? **Isaiah 1:18, Ephesians 2:14-18, Colossians 1:26-27, Romans 16:25**