



not what i planned!!!

Too Heavy!

Journey with Jesus: Luke 16:1-18:17
September 11, 2016 - Pastor Bruce French

What does the pursuit of peace look like?

1. The pursuit of peace _____ when we accept that _____ is a sin. Phil. 4:6a

a) Confess your _____ to God.

2. The pursuit of peace _____ when we give _____ for His grace. Phil. 4:6b

a) Take note of God _____.

3. The pursuit of peace _____ when we present _____ to God. Phil. 4:6c

a) Be _____ in your presentation.

Take Home Truth

The pursuit of _____ produces the _____ of God. Phil. 4:7

Today's Core Virtue:

Peace: "I am free from anxiety because things are right between God, others and myself."
(from Philippians 4:6-7)

Today's Action:

What are you worried about? What can you give God thanks for? Make a commitment to daily turn your concerns over to him and then take note of the peace that comes from it.



Deeper Connection Study

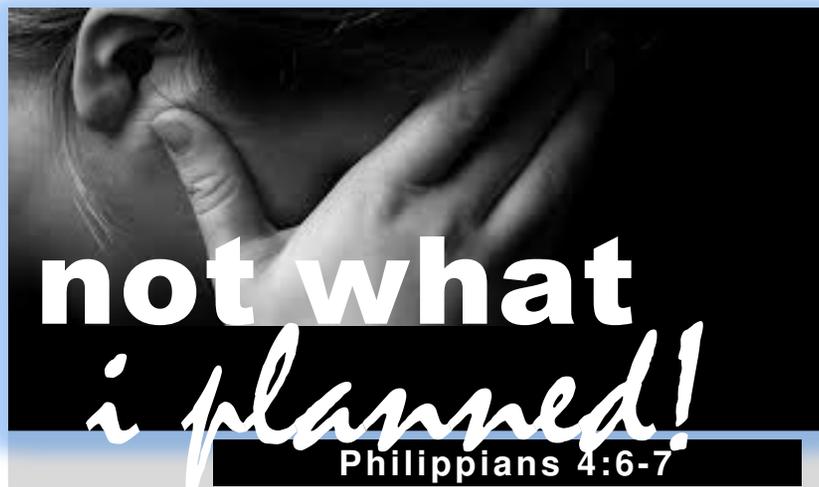
Life can be quite burdensome at times and Christians are not immune to this. Many people have felt overwhelmed by circumstances through no fault of their own. Since this is true, how do we deal with difficulties? It is very easy for worry to creep in and knock us off balance. In order for us to remain grounded, we'll look at what Paul and Jesus have to say on the matter.

Today's Core Virtue discussed: Peace.

Read Matthew 6:25-33 and Philippians 4:6-7

1. What causes you to worry or be anxious? How do you usually deal with such feelings?
2. Why do people worry about life (Matt. 6:25-28)? What concerns should we bring to God (cf. Mt. 6:25-34)? What concerns do you bring?
3. What does Jesus say about the Father's concern and provision for his followers (Matt. 6:29-32)? How does this point to the necessity of living by Jesus' concluding command (Matt. 6:33)?
4. How can prayer displace worry in a Christian's life (Phil. 4:6-7)?
5. What does God provide for the praying believer (vv. 7, 9)? Paul then commands believers to think about what things (v. 8)? How do these things fit together with the preceding verses (vv. 4-8)?
6. *You cannot have the peace of God without knowing the God of peace.* How does this statement reveal the relational component that is missing when people worry? How does this also challenge you to relate with God in prayer?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for giving us peace and guarding our hearts & minds. Pray for God to help you fix your thoughts on Christ and his goodness. Ask God to help you grow in your prayer life and your dependence upon him.



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Philippians 4:6-7

If you pause and look around, you will notice a lot of people carrying heavy burdens. Their daily lives are full of anxiety and worry to the point that even menial tasks seem large.

It isn't difficult to understand why folks are stressed. Everywhere a person looks there is bad news and tragedy flooding the headlines. Consequently it seems that anxiety has become an accepted norm of society, resulting in new and unique coping mechanisms. People today seek to escape their anxiety in everything from alcohol to video games, yet at some point they must face the sober reality that the problem is still there.

As Christians we know that we are not to run to worldly means to medicate our stress, so what is the solution to so much turmoil? Evidently anxiety is not a 21st century problem because Paul wrote about it in the 1st century, and divinely provided a guaranteed prescription.

How about you, are you worried about your finances, or your children, or the future in general? There's good news, God offers peace that transcends our understanding!