

Sunday Sermon Questions • 12/22/2024

Advent Week 3 • Peace

Peace defined by the Bible is not the absence of conflict but rather the promise of God's presence. How does this understanding change the way you approach difficult situations in your life?

According to the data collected by the YouVersion Bible App, Isaiah 41:10 and Philippians 4:6 were the two most highlighted Bible verses from 2018–2024. Why do you think these verses resonate so deeply with people, especially in today's world?

Philippians 4:6–7

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

When we look at Philippians 4:6 we are able to see Paul giving us a command. In verse 7 Paul tells us what happens when we are obedient to do what he commands us to do in verse 6.

What is Paul commanding us to do in vs 6?

What is the promise laid out for us in verse 7 if we are obedient to do what Paul commands?

Do you ever find yourself anxious about things in life? If so, how do you typically handle or deal with your anxiety? Do you try to handle the problem yourself... do you turn to others for help... do you ignore the problem.... Do you try to numb the problem with drugs, alcohol, working out, eating, shopping, tv, or something else, or do you bring that which you are anxious about before the Lord?

According to Paul if we don't have peace that means we are trying to deal with things rather than bringing them to God. What would a first step look like if you were to begin bringing that which you are anxious about before the Lord?

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Prayer Prompt: Trusting God's Peace

Take a moment to quiet your heart and reflect on the areas of your life where you feel overwhelmed, anxious, or in need of peace. Ask God to reveal those specific areas to you.

Once you've identified them, offer them up to Him in prayer. Begin by thanking Him for His faithfulness and His promise to never leave you.

Pray something like this:

Lord, I surrender [name the specific situation or area] to You. I trust You to handle what I cannot. Thank You for Your promise of peace that surpasses all understanding. Help me to rest in Your presence, knowing that You are with me and will guard my heart and mind. Teach me to rely on Your strength and not my own, and remind me daily of the hope, joy, and peace I have in You. Amen.

After praying, take a step of faith by writing down the area you've surrendered and symbolically give it to God, trusting Him to provide His peace in His timing and His way.