

# Grace Group Discussion Guide

## Knowing God's Peace

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### Philippians 4:4-9

#### Synopsis:

Six characteristics to experience the peace of God.

1. Rejoices Always
2. Responds Gently
3. Refuses Anxiety
4. Prays Thankfully
5. Ponders Truth
6. Practices Obedience

#### Questions:

Warm Up:

1. What is one way that the sermon encouraged, exhorted, challenged, or corrected you?

Discussion:

1. What were some of the obstacles to rejoicing that the Philippians faced and what are some of the obstacles to rejoicing in your own life?
2. In Philippians 4:3, Paul reminds the saints at Philippi that their "names are in the book of life", how does this truth help one to rejoice? Read Romans 8:1.
3. Read Philippians 2:3-8. What aspects of Christ's example stand out to you?
4. Read Matthew 11:29, why is responding gently important?
5. What two ways could "the Lord is at Hand" be understood and how is this truth a comfort to you? What other verses come to your mind when you think of God's nearness?
6. Read 1 Peter 5:7, what is Peter's instruction and why is it important?

Application:

1. When do we become anxious? What are some examples in your own life?
2. If trusting in the Lord is the antidote to anxiety then what are some of the promises and characteristics of God that we must be trusting in?
3. In thinking about cultivating a heart of gratitude toward God, what are some of the many things that you are thankful for?
4. Read John 14:27, how does God's peace differ from the World's peace?
5. Which of the 6 virtues of Pondering Truth in Philippians 4:8 are most helpful or convicting when it comes to evaluating your own thought life?
6. What is the importance of practicing obedience?

#### Prayer Suggestion:

*A Message to GCV from Missionary Eric Zeller who continues to serve faithfully in Dubai, UAE as he pastors Redeemer Church and oversees pastoral training at Gulf Theological Seminary:*

Dec 1, 2024

Praise God for his continued work at Redeemer Church. We continue to see the Lord produce new believers, new leaders, and new churches, and trust him to keep causing more fruit to grow. As the UAE government makes some changes in how they relate to churches, pray that the impact of these changes will not be increased restriction but increased opportunity to preach the gospel and plant churches. Please pray for us!

- Pray for Mark A., our new church planting apprentice, to get a visa to move to the UAE for his study - he has experienced challenges and delays in the process. (repeat request - still a need!)

- Praise God for his continued grace and provision towards our family! In summer 2025 Caroline will finish college and Randall will finish high school.

– pray for wise plans and providential opportunities for them and the other kids too.

- Pray for our team at Gulf Theological Seminary to be unified in our mission, and to carry out our work with love for Christ, love for each other, and love for those God has called us to serve.

- Praise God for answering our prayer for a new seminary Chief Operating Officer; pray for Dr. K. and his family to be able to raise support to join us here in the UAE by next summer.