

Philippians 4:1-7

1 Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

2 I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. 3 Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Community Group Study 20 Dec 2009

Introduction

Paul writes a number of practical things to the Philippians towards the end of his letter. He covers issues such as relational conflicts between members of the congregation, letting your gentleness be known to all, not being anxious about anything, and prayer.

Discussion

>>Who in our lives can we call "brothers, whom I love and long for, me joy and my crown" and "beloved"?

>>What does peace guard against (v. 7)?

>>How can we help our brothers and sisters to be reunited, as Paul implores us in verse 3?

Explanation

>>In what way should we pray?

>>Why is verse 6 prefaced by "The Lord is at hand"?

Application

>>How can we rejoice in the Lord in spite of our current difficulties?

>>How should the way we pray reflect our relationship with God?

>>What relational tensions have you allowed to remain unresolved, and how will you go about restoring these?