

# Lesson 4

## Rejoicing in God's Presence, Peace and Provision

### Philippians 4:2-23

Take some time to slowly read through Philippians 4:2 - 23 every day this week, asking the Holy Spirit to illumine your thinking and to speak to you through this portion of the Word of God.

1. What concept from last week's lesson was especially helpful or thought provoking to you?
2. Look for a verse in the lesson this week that is meaningful to you and make it your memory verse. Write it down, carry it with you, put it on your refrigerator or mirror or dashboard and memorize it. Share your memory verse with your small group.

*“And the peace of God,  
which surpasses all  
comprehension,  
shall guard your hearts  
and your minds in  
Christ Jesus.”*

*Philippians 4:7*

### Rejoicing in God's Presence and Peace:

#### Philippians 4:2-9

3. How does Paul handle the apparent disagreement between Euodia and Syntyche? See Philippians 4:2-3
4. According to Paul why is it important that fellow believers live together in peace and mutual concern? See I Corinthians 12:12-27 and discuss.

5. What is the “book of life” that Paul refers to in Philippians 4:3? See also Luke 10:20, Revelation 3:5, 20:12, 20:15 and 21:25-27.
  
6. In a dictionary look up the word *forbearance* (also translated moderation) found in verse 5 and write the definition.
  
7. In verse 5, Paul says “the Lord is near.” Do you think he was referring the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ or the fact that He is in our midst when two or more are gathered in His name? See Matthew 18:20.
  
8. How does the fact that the Lord is near make a difference in your attitudes and actions?
  
9. Carefully consider Philippians 4:6 and Matthew 6:25-34. What should we be anxious about?
  
10. Instead of being anxious what should we do?
  
11. Can you think of one thing you are anxious about this week? Will you release this to the Lord in prayer with thanksgiving right now?
  
12. What does Paul promise will happen in Philippians 4:7?
  
13. Have you ever experienced the peace of God guarding your heart? Share with your group if you like.

14. Make a list with definitions of the things we should let our minds “dwell upon” mentioned in Philippians 4:8, and discuss how you are doing in this area.
  
15. Our thought life is very important to the Lord. Consider Romans 12:1-2 and II Corinthians 10:5 along with Philippians 4:8. What challenges you from these verses?

### **Rejoicing in God’s Provision:**

#### **Philippians 4:10-23**

16. What is the secret of Paul’s contentment in all circumstances according to Philippians 4:11-13?
  
17. What have the Philippians done to show their support for Paul? Give verses to support your answer.
  
18. What do you learn about giving from Philippians 4:17-18, Matthew 6:19-21, John 12:3 and II Corinthians 9:6-10?
  
19. What promise is given in Philippians 4:19, and what is the context in which it is given?
  
20. How might Philippians 4:22 fit together with Philippians 1:12-13?



30. Based on your study this week, what do you think God is teaching you or inviting you to do or be?

31. Looking back over the last four lessons on Philippians, what will stand out to you from this study?