

Series: That We May Know Him

Text: Phil. 4:2-9

**Main Idea:** In Christ we seek unity, rejoice, and know peace.

Title/Hook: Why?

Date: 11/12/23

Purpose: To exhort Christians to pursue unity, prioritize rejoicing, practice kindness, and know promised peace...Why? How? *In the Lord!*

FCF/COR: Disunity, anxiety, wrong thinking, lack of kindness to all, these are things we as Christians need to be challenged on because we struggle with them just like the Christians in Philippi.

Christ Trajectory: “In the Lord” – Jesus, and our union with Him by faith and salvation in Him, is the reason, the motivation, the empowerment, the hope for all the things we are called to in this passage.

Apologetic: We all are seeking peace (see “Peace on Earth” posts around the county). True peace is only found in Christ, peace with God and the peace of God.

Call to Worship: Phil. 1:27

Benediction: Phil. 2:1

Structure: Inductive

### **Main Idea:**

Subject (What is the passage about?): Why does Paul call for unity, rejoicing, prayer, and right thinking?

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): Because they are “in the Lord” and are promised God’s peace.

Exegetical Main Idea: Paul calls for unity, rejoicing, prayer, and right thinking because they are “in the Lord” and are promised God’s peace.

Theological Main Idea: God’s people seek unity, rejoice, pray, and think on what is true, because they are “in Christ” and are promised God’s peace in Him.

Homiletical Main Idea: In Christ we seek unity, rejoice, and know peace.

Outline:

**Text:** Phil. 4:2-9

### **1. Christians are to seek unity in the Lord (vv. 2-3, 5)**

**Philippians 2:3-4, 14** - <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others....<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or disputing...

**Philippians 2:1-2** - <sup>1</sup>So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the *same mind*, having the same love, being in full accord and of *one mind*.

**Ephesians 4:32** - <sup>32</sup>Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

### **2. Christians are to rejoice in the Lord (v. 4)**

- Jesus died on the cross for sinners (2:5-8)
- We are might right with God by faith in Christ (2:9)
- God will finish the work He started in us (1:6)
- Jesus will return and bring us into eternal life (3:20)

### **3. Christians are to exchange worry for prayer and pure thoughts, receiving peace in the Lord (vv. 6-9)**

**Quote – D.A. Carson** – “I have never met a chronic worrier with an excellent prayer life.”

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