

2019 “Word of the Year” Series:

“**God of Peace**”

Part 2

01/20/2019

Philippians 4:4-9 (NLT)

4“Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! 5Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.

6Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. **7Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.**

8And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. 9Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. **Then the God of peace will be with you.**”

-Two Practices that lead to Peace (God's):

1. Replace Worry with Prayer

6Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. **7Then you will experience God's PEACE, which exceeds anything we can understand. His PEACE will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.**

-God isn't only about deleting things from our lives, He's about adding better things to them.

-Really pray, like for real. How about this even: “Pray like you worry.”

2. Focus on what is Eternal instead of what is Temporary

(8a)Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise....(9b)Then the God of PEACE will be with you.

-Which side of the list below do I usually focus on more in my everyday life?

True vs. False

Honorable vs. Dishonorable

Right vs. Wrong/Unjust

Pure vs. Impure/Polluted

Lovely vs. Ugly/Hideous (even "Hateful": no vice is universally as hateful as ingratitude)
Admirable vs. Deplorable (deserving no respect)

-Just as temptation leads to sin and sin to death (James 1) so our thoughts lead to action and our actions will either see us sowing seeds of death or life- which will you choose today?