

Holiday Peace
Fighting for Peace
Philippians 4:4-9

Sermon Notes

My INWARD peace DISPLAYS my UPWARD peace and DETERMINES my OUTWARD peace.

John 14:27 (ESV) — Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

1. REFRAME your Peace

Philippians 4:4–5a (ESV) — Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

Our FIRST COMMAND is ...

“Rejoice in the Lord always!”

- **The LEVEL of your joy is directly related to the OBJECT of your joy**

Now we come to our **SECOND COMMAND...**

Philippians 4:5a (ESV) — Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

Our SECOND COMMAND...

“Be gracious to everyone!”

Philippians 2:3 (ESV) — Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

2. REGAIN your Peace

Philippians 4:5b–7 (ESV) — The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Here we see our THIRD COMMAND...

“Do not be anxious about anything!”

John 16:33 (ESV)

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

I want us to look again at these first three commands again...

“Rejoice in the Lord always!”

“Be gracious to everyone!”

“Do not be anxious about anything!”

Philippians 4:6–7 (ESV) — ... but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Here we find our *FOURTH COMMAND*...

“Take everything to God!”

- **Our peace, though AFFECTED by circumstances, must not be CONNECTED to circumstances.**

How do we “disconnect” our shaken peace from our circumstances?

Prayer – bring your requests to God

Supplication – bring your urgent needs to God

Thanksgiving – express gratitude for God’s blessings

James 4:7 (ESV)
Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

3. RETRAIN your Peace

Philippians 4:8 (ESV) — Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think

John 16:13 (ESV)

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

1 Timothy 3:8 (ESV) — 8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.

Romans 12:10 (ESV)

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Micah 6:8 (ESV)

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 5:8 (ESV)

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

1 Peter 2:12 (ESV)

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Romans 12:2 (ESV) — Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...

“Practice Godly living!”

Philippians 2:5 (ESV) — Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus

Our FIFTH COMMAND...

“Think good and godly thoughts!”

4. RETAIN your Peace

Philippians 4:9 (ESV) — What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV) — Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

“Rejoice in the Lord always!”

“Be gracious to everyone!”

“Do not be anxious about anything!”

“Take everything to God!”

“Think good and godly thoughts!”

Our SIXTH COMMAND...