

# The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES  
with Pastor Greg Formey



## Faith For Right Now

**Philippians 4:6-7**

Sunday, January 4, 2026

**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. ESV**

In this new year, many hearts feel heavy. Some see a calendar full of scary unknowns. Questions rise about health, family, money, and calling. It is easy to stand on the edge of the year with an anxious, racing mind.

But God calls us to stand in the present moment with a different posture. Our text does not only speak about tomorrow; it pertains to right now. Faith is a present assurance and trust. God may not show us the next twelve months, but He offers us strength for this very moment.

### PRESENT ASSURANCE

**Hebrews 11:1**

**Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ESV**

Faith is a present grip on real things that are unseen. Faith gives concreteness to what God has promised, even when we feel nothing. It acts in the present based on God's character, treating His Word as more solid than our fears.

The word "assurance" translates the Greek term, which means a foundation or support. Faith is like the solid beam under the floor of your life. You may not see the beam, but you stand on it.

The first readers of the book of Hebrews lived in a world of pressure. Some had lost their property. Some faced rejection from their families and the synagogue. In the customs of that time, losing your place in the community could mean losing work, shelter, and honor. Yet God called them to treat His unseen promises as more real than the visible threats around them.

Think of Abraham in **Hebrews 11:8**.

**By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ESV**

Abraham stepped out with no map. His assurance came from the one who called him.

God has not changed. His promises have not moved. His character has not weakened. The future is hidden, but the foundation is firm.

Where are you letting visible fears speak louder than the invisible promises of God to you in this present moment?

## **PRESENT PEACE**

God calls you in this moment to trade your anxiety for prayer. Instead of turning worries over in your mind, you can turn them over to God, and at the same time, being thankful to Him for giving you the favor of trusting Him. His peace fully personally stands guard over your heart and mind in Christ Jesus right now.

Paul writes to believers in Philippi, a Roman colony where soldiers and guards were a common sight. The verb "be anxious" in Philippians 4:6 pictures worry that is ongoing. In essence, God is saying, "Stop living in a pattern of constant anxiety."

The beautiful thing is that the peace of God "will guard your heart and your mind." The word "guard" pictures a soldier standing watch over a city gate. In the ancient world, the safety of a city depended on guards that were faithful. God promises that His peace will stand watch over your inner life like a guard at its door.

We see this in the story of Hannah. First Samuel 1:10 says, "She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly." ESV. After she poured out her heart, Eli said, "Go in peace." In other words be assured on the inside that what God has promised you will take place.

Verse 18 says, "**Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.**" ESV. The situation had not yet changed, but her heart had shifted from anxiety to peace.

Right now, God invites you to take every worry and move it from your mind to His hands through prayer and supplication with thanksgiving. That means you name the concern, you ask for His help, and you thank Him for His faithfulness before you see the answer.

What specific worry do you need to slide across the table to God in prayer, trusting Him to stand guard over your heart and mind.

If you make the decision to do this more than you don't do it, this year will be one of the best years you have ever had.

## **Conclusion**

Faith for right now does not wait for a perfect year. It stands in this imperfect moment on the solid ground of God's promises. Having a prayerful heart for right now does not require a quiet life. It brings your noisy heart boldly to Him.

As you step out into this new year, we do not know every turn in the road, but we know the one who walks with you. As you do, trust that the peace of God will guard your heart in Christ Jesus, today and every day that follows this day.