

I. Intro

A. Text: **Phil. 4:1-20**

B. Recap

1. Consider everything as dung, in comparison to the One Thing: Knowing Jesus! (**Phil. 3:8**)
2. I Press that I may lay hold of that which has apprehended me. (**Phil. 3:12**)
3. I've come a long way, but I haven't made it.
  - a. Encore
  - b. I Press toward the upward call

II. That You Would Follow My Example (**Phil. 3:16-4:9**)

*"Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. (**Phil. 3:17**)*

A. Don't Just Talk About It (**Phil. 3:16-4:1**)

1. Many Talk the talk, but their walk proves where they really stand.
  - a. Enemies of the Cross. (**Phil. 3:18**)
  - b. God is their belly. (**Phil. 3:19**)
    - i. Personal desires.
  - c. Set their mind on earthly things. (**Phil. 3:19b**)
    - i. Passion is for things that the rest of world is pursuing.
    - ii. Passion is for temporary pleasures.

2. We are not of this world. (**Phil. 3:20**)

- a. **John 17:16**: "*They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.*"
- b. Conduct (walk) Reveals Your Citizenship (**Phil. 3:20**)

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- c. Passion (Blessed Hope): Certain and Imminent return of Jesus
  - i. So we eagerly wait.
  - ii. Occupy until He comes.
  - iii. Eyes are fixed upon the promise of being in His Presence eternally.
- d. We will be changed. (**Phil. 3:21**)
  - i. Weak bodies will be transformed to His perfect glorious body.
  - ii. He'll put all things under His feet, control.
  - iii. Everything, everyone will bow.

#### B. Get Over It (**Phil. 4:2-5**)

- 1. Euodia and Syntyche to get on the same page. (**v. 2**)
  - a. Help them get over it. (**v. 3**)
- 2. Rejoice always (even in the struggle of fellowship).
  - a. Again, rejoice. (**v. 4**)
- 3. Rejoice that gentleness is being displayed in the middle of conflict, miscommunication, hurt and neglect. (**v. 5**)
  - a. Rejoice that you are on front street (before a world who needs to figure out how to walk through conflict together).
- 4. Rejoice as your gentleness, longsuffering and forgiveness is on display, knowing that the Lord is on the brink of His return.

#### C. Peace Is Predicated by Perspective (**Phil. 4:6-8**)

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; (**Phil. 4:6**)*

- 1. **Anxious:** *To care/worry about your tomorrow in a way that negatively affects your today.*
  - a. Take no thought (Worry)
    - i. *For your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink (**Matt. 6:25**)*

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- ii. *About what you will say when they deliver you up, for in that same hour you will be given what to say* **(Matt. 10:19)**
- b. Take no thought about things.
  - i. Give it to God and let Him take care.
  - ii. Let Him get anxious about how He's gonna do it.
  - iii. Lay that stuff at His feet.

2. Watch peace guard your heart and mind. **(v. 7)**

*and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:7)*

- a. The peace that God promises... goes in places where understanding can't reach.
  - i. Some things our minds cannot contain.
  - ii. Some things are not logical, but true.
- 3. Peace/ joy can be derived from a variety of sources
  - a. Perspective matters
    - i. Whatever you spend your time peering at becomes the object of your affection.
    - ii. Whatever you spend your time being anxious about becomes the object of your joy.
  - b. Perspective Peace Sources
    - i. Fishing out on a quiet lake.
    - ii. Shopping at Macy's.
    - iii. Taking a long drive on the freeway.
    - iv. Buying Gifts for others
  - c. True peace is possible in all those things.
  - d. Peace in those things is understandable.
    - i. But I want better than what's understandable.
    - ii. Gimme peace that surpasses understanding.
- 4. Peace is constant as long as the thing you placed your gaze on is constant. Peace is conditional.
  - a. If the thing that you get peace from fluctuates, then your peace fluctuates.

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- i. If the thing you had your eyes on shifts, then your peace shifts with it.
- ii. If the thing you were anxious about ceases to be, then your peace ceases with it.

5. I dare you place your care on Jesus.
  - a. Place your perspective on that which will never change or shift.
    - i. No shadow or turning with Him.
    - ii. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever.
6. Don't Worry (about trivial things); Be Happy (Meditate)
  - a. Is there a difference (Worry vs. Meditation)
  - b. Here's What You Place your Perspective On (**Phil. 4:8**)
    - i. Whatever is True
    - ii. Noble (honest, honorable): revered, refers to that which is majestic and awe-inspiring.
    - iii. Just (righteous):
    - iv. Lovely
    - v. Good report: (well spoken of, good-famed)
    - vi. Virtue: Excellence, moral superiority, perfection
    - vii. Praiseworthy (worthy of praise)

D. Follow What's Been Modeled for You.

III. That Others Would Follow Your Example (**Phil. 4:10-20**)

A. You're Selflessly Generous (**Phil. 4:10, 14-18**)

1. Desired to invest into me. To be a brother/sister to me (**v. 10**).
  - a. Desired to share in the gospel with me through your sacrificial giving.
  - b. You had the desire, but you lacked the opportunity
2. But God made a way out of no way.
  - a. When I left on mission, the only church that supported me was the Philippian church (**v. 15**)

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- b. Even when I served in the Thessalonican church, they didn't have to worry about how I would eat and survive (**v.16**).
  - i. You gave so that they didn't have to give.
  - ii. No one supported the ministry but Philippi.
- 3. But don't be confused: I never sought after the financial gift that you'd give (**v. 17**)
  - a. I sought after the benefit of you sharing in the gospel.
  - b. I sought after the eternal rewards of you bringing others into the Kingdom.
  - c. I sought after the returned blessing on your finances, marriages, children, etc.
  - d. I sought after you partnering to bring souls into the Kingdom.
- 4. I have all that I need. I have all that you've sent (**v. 18**).
  - a. Sweet smelling aroma
  - b. Acceptable Sacrifice
  - c. Well Pleasing.

#### B. You Sent My Joy Over the Top (**Phil. 4:11-13**)

- 1. Not that I didn't already have joy.
  - a. You just increased my joy!

*"Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: (**Phil. 4:11**)*

- 2. Not that I wasn't already full/content (in regard to material things).
  - a. I had everything I could have ever needed.
- 3. You gave me stuff, but you never supplied my needs.
  - a. Sufficiency is in Christ alone
  - b. I know how to enjoy Jesus where I'm at on the way to where I'm going.
    - i. I know how to enjoy Christ over Top Ramen.
    - ii. I know how to enjoy Christ over lobster.
    - iii. I know how to enjoy Christ while catching the bus.

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- iv. I know how to enjoy Him while driving a late model sedan.
- c. Ups and downs don't move me. Circumstances don't make me. Money don't motivate me.

*<sup>13</sup>I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13).*

- 4. I can do all things... as long as I've got the one thing that matters (knowing Christ). Everything else is... (Phil. 3:13)

#### IV. Conclusion: God is the Only Supplier of Need (Phil. 4:19-20)

*<sup>19</sup>And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).*

- A. You never supplied my need.
  - 1. You never supplied my joy.
    - a. You just made joy full (complete).
- B. My Father ain't struggling.
  - 1. Owns a cattle on a thousand hills.
    - a. I happen to be a joint-heir with the firstborn over all creation.
  - 2. Out of the depth of His riches, my God supplies my need.
- C. **Not many needs**, not many things...
  - 1. One need:
    - a. We have but one need
    - b. Knowing Jesus, abiding in His Presence
    - c. In His Presence, everything.