Experiencing the Peace and Presence of God Philippians 4:4-9

I. Paul tells us how to experience the peace of God Philippians 4:4-7

A. We experience the peace of God as we rejoice in the Lord - 4:4

the Lord calls us to rejoice at all times Paul urged the Christians to always rejoice - 1 Thessalonians 5:16 the Lord calls us to have an attitude of rejoicing Paul wanted the Christians to rejoice in his suffering - Philippians 2:17-18

B. We experience the peace of God as we use gentleness - 4:5

we are to model gentleness as we deal with all people we are to be gentle with both the good and the evil - 1 Peter 2:18 we are to model gentleness because the Lord is coming soon we are to be gentle because Christ is coming - Revelation 1:3

C. We experience the peace of God as we learn to be thankful - 4:6

the Lord tells us not to worry about anything Christ gives us seven reasons not to be anxious - Matthew 6:25-34 the Lord tells us to talk to Him about everything Christ tells us to pray at all times - 1 Thessalonians 5:17 we are to pray at all times with prayer and supplication - Ephesians 6:18 the Lord tells us to bring our requests with thanksgiving we are to be abounding with thanksgiving - Colossians 2:7 we are to pray with thanksgiving - Colossians 4:2-4 the Lord tells us to make our requests known to Him we are told how to have these requests answered - 1 John 5:14-15

D. We experience the peace of God as the Lord guards our hearts - 4:7

the Lord says we can experience His peace we can experience His peace at all times - 2 Thessalonians 3:16 the Lord says His peace is beyond human understanding we see that the God of peace is able to sanctify us completely - 1 Thessalonians 5:23 the Lord says His peace will guard our hearts we are to let the peace of God rule in our hearts - Colossians 3:15 the Lord says His peace will guard our minds we experience this peace as we are like-minded - 2 Corinthians 13:11

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II. Paul tells us how to experience the presence of God Philippians 4:8-9

A. We experience the presence of God as He guides our thoughts - 4:8

God calls us to think about the things that are true God is the One who is the source of what is true - John 3:33 God says that the things the Holy Spirit teaches are true - 1 John 2:27 God calls us to think about the things that are honest (KJV) God wants us to think on the honest so that we do what is honest - 2 Corinthians 13:7 God wants us to think honestly toward both God and man - 2 Corinthians 8:21 God wants us to walk honestly toward all - 1 Thessalonians 4:12 God calls us to think about the things that are just God calls on masters to give what is just or right - Colossians 4:1 God says a qualification for leadership is being just or righteous - Titus 1:8 God calls us to think about the things that are pure God calls us to keep ourselves pure in what we do - 1 Timothy 5:22 God calls us to think on the wisdom from above which is pure - James 3:17 God calls us to follow Christ as our model of purity - 1 John 3:3 God calls us to think about the things that are lovely Christ calls us friends or ones who are loved - John 15:13-15 God calls us to think about the things that are of good report God calls us to think and speak things that encourage - Hebrews 10:24-25

B. We experience the presence of God as He guides our actions - 4:9

God calls us to remember the things we have learned we are to learn by hearing the Word of God - John 5:24 we are to continue in the things that we have learned - 2 Timothy 3:14 we are to learn to do good works - Titus 3:14 God calls us to remember the things we have received we have received the Gospel - 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 we have received Christ and are to walk in Him - Colossians 2:6-7 we have all received a ministry which we are to fulfill - Colossians 4:17 God calls us to remember the things we have heard we are to hear the Word of God - Romans 10:17 God calls us to remember the things we have seen we are to see how to answer each person with grace - Colossians 4:6 God calls us to know and do these things we will be rewarded according to what we have done - 2 Corinthians 5:10