



Finding Peace in Times of Uncertainty

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

April 19, 2020

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. – Col.

1:16-17

Could it be that uncertainty is God's favorite environment? Uncertainty often results in fear and anxiety and the result of these produce an environment where it seems that's when He gets the most accomplished in our lives. We are often distant to His leading, except in those difficult seasons of life. Don't forget, when life is uncertain, God is not.

For He has the whole world in his hands

Peace – available to all, experienced by few ... Phil. 4:1-9

- I. Stay the _____
you should stand firm in the Lord, ... vs. 1
- II. Resolve Personal _____
plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord... vs. 2,3
- III. Determine to _____
Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ... vs. 4
- IV. Let the _____ get out for all to see
Let your gentleness be evident to all. ... vs. 5
- V. Pray About _____
Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer. ... vs. 6-7
- VI. Focus on the _____
"whatever things are true, ... meditate on these things.... vs. 8-9

Let's Be Reminded ...

- I. There is nothing too great for God's _____, and nothing too small for Dad's _____.
- II. _____ God intervenes in our circumstances, but _____ there is peace available if we come openhanded and make the secrets of our hearts known to us and to him.

Truth for Life

For the week of April 19, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. When you reflect back on your spiritual journey, who of you made significant spiritual steps during those difficult seasons of life? What step did you take? Why was that season fertile ground for your willingness to take that step?
2. We heard that unresolved conflict in a relationship may be hinderance to our finding peace. The key to conflict is not trying to avoid it but learning to manage it. What do the following verses tell us about our responsibility in managing conflict?

Matthew 18: 15-17

Romans 12:18

Matthew 7:3-5

What challenges do you face in trying to carry out these responsibilities?

3. During the Last Supper, Jesus was aware of how difficult the next few days would be for His disciples as they struggled with fear, doubt, and anxiety. He spent much of this last conversation with them preparing them for the challenges to come. In the following passages, write down the statements and promises of Jesus that would have provided the disciples with comfort and encouragement.

John 14: 1-3

John 14:15-20, 27

John 16:6-7

Which of Jesus' statements is most helpful to you as you face anxiety-producing circumstances in your life?

How do you need to apply this statement to your life?

4. It's easy to find negative things in life to focus on and worry about. Because of that, Paul tells the Philippians four times in his letter to them to rejoice (twice in 4:4). What do the following verses say regarding what we're to rejoice about?

Romans 5:3-4

Psalm 13:5

Psalm 31:7

Psalm 119:62

Proverbs 29:2

How can these verses help you include more rejoicing in your life?

5. Read back through Philippians 4:8-9. Why is focusing on excellent things so important to us? How do we discipline ourselves to focus on excellent things when our news is so saturated with the negative, stressful, or difficult things?

Philippians 4:5c-7 ... *The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*



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IV. Let the Fruit of the Spirit get out for all to see

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V. Pray About Everything

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer. ... vs. 6-7

VI. Focus on the Excellent Things

"whatever things are true, ... meditate on these things.... vs. 8-9

Let's Be Reminded ...

I. There is nothing too great for God's power, and nothing too small for Dad's care.

II. Sometimes God intervenes in our circumstances, but all the time there is peace available if we come openhanded and make the secrets of our hearts known to us and to him.

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