Phil 4:2–9, Miscellaneous



*October 6*

**REVIEW:** [Philippians](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE9qqW1-BkU)

**CONTEXT:** Paul planted the church in Philippi, the first in Europe (Acts 16). This church knew great persecution and yet remained faithful. Writing from prison, Paul integrates all he has to say about the Philippians faith around the life and ministry of Jesus (Phil 2:1–11). In our passage today, Paul completes the picture of our life by addressing some miscellaneous matters.

**FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP** (Phil 2:12–13)

* Why does Paul have the expectation that the Philippians will obey?
* What first comes to mind when you hear these verses?
* Is Paul talking about works salvation? If not, what?
* What do key words mean in this passage (e.g. work out, salvation, fear and trembling)?
* Describe why this is a weighty, as in an awesome, passage.
* **Over the past four weeks we’ve been asking this question, Why Go to Church (or Why the Church Gathers)? Discuss.**

**READ:** Phil 4:2–9

**QUESTIONS:**

**An Exhortation (Strong Word of Encouragement)**

1. Why do you think these sisters, who were once in agreement and had served with Paul in ministry, were not “agreeing in the Lord”?
2. **What does it mean to agree in the Lord? What deep issue of sanctification does labouring to find this agreement address in us?**
3. *Paul writes to one “true companion” (or the name Yokefellow).* How can we help be peacemakers between believers?
4. What does it look like for women to be “fellow labourers” in Gospel ministry and yet for the Bible to reserve certain roles/offices for qualified men?
5. **If we’re going to spend eternity with our brothers and sisters, why is NOW a good time to start getting along?**
6. The Book of Life- How amazing is it that the believer’s name is found here? (mentioned 7 times in Revelation)

**General Encouragements**

1. **V. 4- Why does the Bible place such emphasis on rejoicing?**
2. **Always, really? Why is this commanded?**
3. **V. 5- Like Ja 3:17, reasonableness is a fruit of the Spirit. What is it? Why should it be the mark of a Christian? How can we cultivate it?**
4. **V. 6- Are you an anxious person, why?**
5. **Why have we no need to be anxious? What and who are at our disposal?**

**A Prayer**

1. **V. 8- What comes to mind/what do you feel when you read these lofty words? How is this proper spiritual thinking?**
2. **How is thinking (c.f. Ro 12:2) so central to being transformed into these values?**
3. *V. 9a- As Paul followed Jesus so he calls the Philippians to follow him.* **How is imitation important for the disciple (and humbling for the discipler!)?**
4. **V. 9b- As we practice these things (i.e. live out our lives in a Christlike way) what is the amazing assurance of the outcome?**

**How does all that we saw in our passage reflect Jesus?**

**NEXT TIME:** October 13, 1 Ti 4:6–16, A Good Servant

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