



STILLNESS in STRUGGLES

Sunday, October 15, 2017

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — “*Be still, and know that I am God*” (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — “*to obey is better than sacrifice*” (1 Samuel 15:22)

The main truth: **When we are still before God, we will hear His still small voice speaking His stabilizing truths which will lead to quietness in the storm.**

Goal: Our goal in these messages is to understand the role of stillness in the struggles of life in order that we would worship God through life’s storms.

Stillness through Supplication (Philippians 4:6-7)

Here in Philippians 4, there is a progression in Paul’s writing.

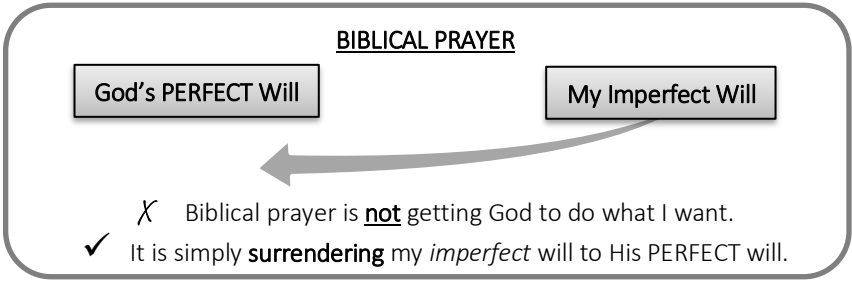
† In v. 1-5, our peace with **others**—*harmony* within the body of Christ.

† In v. 6-9, our peace within **ourselves**—*quietness* within our soul.

† In v. 10-19, our peace with the **outside**—*contentment* in the storm.

As we have already seen, being an **undistracted student** of God’s Word is vital to our *stillness in struggles*. We also must submit to God’s **transcendent ways** and surrender to His **transforming Word** which teaches us about Who He is.

Here in Philippians 4:6-7 we see *stillness through supplication*—the effectiveness of humility in prayer as a means of bringing about peace. Consider how our submission to God in prayer leads to stillness within.



It is the place of submission and surrender that leads to stillness through supplication.

I. Introduction: Peace with God vs. the Peace of God

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with **God** through our **Lord Jesus Christ**:

Romans 8:1 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in **Christ Jesus**, who walk not after the flesh, but after the **Spirit**.

II. The _____ for the PEACE OF GOD (v. 6)

The phrase, “*be careful*” carries the idea of being _____, or troubled.

Corrie Ten Boom – “Worry does not empty tomorrow of sorrows; it empties today of strength.”

Psalm 56:3 What time I am afraid, I will trust [*be confident*] in **Thee**.

1. Our Approach in Prayer (v. 6a)

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

a. Attitude of _____

Luke 11:2 And **He** said unto them, “When ye pray, say, ‘Our **Father** which art in heaven, Hallowed be **Thy** name. ...

b. Attitude of _____

c. Attitude of _____

Cf. Ephesians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:18

2. Our _____ in Prayer (v. 6b)

James 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

III. The _____ of the PEACE OF GOD (v. 7)

The principle: don't worry about anything, but pray about everything!

Cf. Isaiah 26:3

Cf. John 14:27

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in **Me** ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Cf. Colossians 3:15-17

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God,... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: to Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!