

Philippians 4:19

Message Video:

Bless My Stress - The Source Of The Secret

Phil 4:8-9

"And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you."

- Practice these things and the God of Peace will be with you.
- God will bring His peace and His presence if you practice your faith.

Phil 4:10-19

"But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned before, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.

You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone; for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs. Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable

sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

- Context of the promise is generosity
 - The Philippians were not wealthy people; they were generous people
 - God blesses generosity

Phil 4:12

"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."

- The secret of contentment in EVERY situation
 - What area stresses you out?
 - God says He'll bring peace to that area.
- Every promise of God is predicated by something we do (we practice)
 - For this promise, we have to make Jesus the Lord of our life.
 - O What does "Lord" mean?
 - Designation of authority the master, king, CEO
 - Jesus's <u>peace</u> in <u>every</u> part of my life requires me making Jesus <u>Lord</u> over <u>every</u> part of my life.
 - You have to surrender every area of your life.

This peace and promise is predicated on <u>faithfulness</u>
"And it is impossible to please God without faith." Hebrews 11:6a

- Faithfulness requires an all or nothing dynamic.
 - Example: If a husband said he would only be faithful 6 days a week, he is not faithful at all.
- It's not about perfection. It's about not locking God out of any area in your life.
- God will not take away your joy.
 - He wants to liberate you, set you free.

Phil 4:19

"And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Every other promise in the Bible falls under this promise: God's willingness to resource your life.

- "...ALL your needs..."
 - God is willing to supply all the needs in your life.
 - o Present, Past, Future, Front, Back, Above, Beneath
- "...all your NEEDS..."
 - God is able and WILLING to supply all your needs
 - How do we know? Easter!
 - o John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

- Our need was sin
 - Cosmic treason
 - Eternally separated from God
- God gave His BEST: His son.
 - He met our profound spiritual need
 - Any need after that is pocket change in comparison
 - It's like buying a diamond ring and they throw in the box
- "...according to HIS RICHES..."
 - How do you define rich?
 - Americans underestimate how well-off we are
 - God is a global God, not American.
 - God so loved the WORLD.
 - If you own a car, you are wealthier than the majority of the world
 - You have a room for your car (garage)... you're rich
 - Who do we call rich?
 - US median annual income is \$45,500
 - o Kylie Jenner \$19,000/hour
 - Jeff Bazos \$2,500/sec
 - Twice the average American weekly income
 - Michael Jordan first athlete billionaire in history. \$90 million during NBA career. \$2.1 billion net worth

- All look penniless compared to King Solomon
 - King Solomon received 666 talents of gold (25 tons) every year and he reigned for 39 years.
 - Net worth on gold alone is \$2Trillion
- But God resources us from HIS glorious riches.
 - All those rich people, including King Solomon, are like beggars in comparison.

The words "How" and "When" are not mentioned in verse 19.

- God is highly intentional about every word in scripture and every word left out.
- The "How" and the "When" are the SYSTEM of the resourcing.
- The SOURCE is the promise making, promise keeping God.
 - The source is constant.
 - The system is fluid.
- 1 Kings 17 Elijah is resourced by a brook, ravens, and a widow.
 - Elijah was resourced by God via a brook and birds bringing bread and meat every day.
 - o The birds and the brook are the system
 - God is the source.
 - God kept His promise, even when the brook dried up and the birds stopped coming.
 - o God sent Elijah to a poor widow for resourcing.
 - God used the widow to keep Elijah, herself, and her son alive.

God will allow this broken world to mess with our system to remind us that He is the source.

Acts 27 - Paul's journey to Rome

- Paul is on his way from Israel to Italy to see Caesar for trial.
- The ship meets a hurricane along the way and everyone freaks out, except Paul.

- Not because Paul pretended the storm wasn't there, but because God promised Paul that he would stand before caesar in Rome.
- o Paul was trusting in God's promise.
- God never said the ship would get to Rome, only that Paul would.
- Paul told the others that if they stayed with him, His God would protect them, too.
- Paul's focus was on the Voice, not the Vessel.
- The ship went down, but everyone survived.

"And MY God..."

- God gets powerful when God gets personal in your life.
- Have you asked Jesus Christ to be the Lord of your life?
 - Jesus wants to be your personal Lord and Savior.
 - o These promises will become yours.

Discussion Starters

Remember to pick and choose which questions make the most sense for your LifeGroup.

- 1. Read Philippians 4:8-9. Have you been practicing guarding your thoughts? If so, how have you experienced God's peace and presence?
- 2. Read Philippians 4:14-18. How have you been generous during this season of difficulty? What blessings have you seen as a result of your generosity?
- 3. In what area of your life do you feel the greatest need for God's peace?
- 4. Read Philippians 4:12. About what area of your life were you previously stressed, but now have God's peace?
- 5. What area(s) of your life do you struggle to make Jesus Lord over?
- 6. Read Philippians 4:19. Is there a need in your life where you doubt God's ability and willingness to supply? Why?
- 7. Read John 3:16. How can we use this verse to remind us that God is able AND willing to supply ALL our needs?
- 8. Read John 3:16. Pastor David made the point that if God gave His best for your greatest possible need (your eternal salvation), then every other need pales in comparison. Share a need you once thought was great, but now know pales in comparison to what God has already done.
- 9. What is a system you were relying on before quarantine? How has God used that system to remind you that He is the Source?
- 10. In 1 Kings 17, the brook supplying Elijah's needs dried up. What system has dried up in your life?
- 11. In 1 Kings 17, God provided an unexpected system for Elijah's needs when He directed him to the widow. What has been an unexpected system that God has used to supply your needs?

- 12. In Acts 27, Paul stayed focused on the Voice of God, not the vessel (the ship). How can we stay focused on the Voice, instead of worrying about the vessel?
- 13. God's promises get powerful when God gets personal. Have you asked Jesus Christ to be your personal Lord and Savior?