

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Cultivating Peace*Joy Made Complete* | Philippians 4:8-9

REVIEW

Paul wrote Philippians for the sake of unifying the church in the enjoyment and advancement of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Unity in the gospel births communal joy that results in the advance of the gospel to the lost. As we partner together in the gospel, the result is **joy made complete**.

In 4:8-9, Paul urges the Philippian church to ponder all that is good, right, true and excellent. When they truly think about these things, this will animate and orient their loves and their lives.

APPLY // PHILIPPIANS 4:8-9

Consider practical ways to apply the text of Scripture. Think about implications at the individual and corporate level remembering God's word shapes our beliefs and our behaviors.

1. Read Philippians 4:1-9.
2. There are two commands in verses 8-9: *think* about these things; *practice* these things.
 - a. What do you think Paul has in mind when he says, "think"?
 - b. How does thinking and loving relate? (cf. 1:9)
 - c. How does our thinking and loving relate to our living?
3. Discuss each of the of the things in verse 8 Paul calls the Philippian church to focus on. Now discuss how Jesus Christ embodies all these characteristics perfectly.
4. How would your daily life change if your mind was more focused on the things listed in verse 8?
5. What practical steps can you take to dwell more on what (and the Who) is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent and worthy of praise?
6. How does thinking and practicing lead us to "the God of peace"?
7. Why is peace such an important aspect of our walk with Jesus?
8. How would you counsel someone who is not experiencing the peace of God?