

6 Steps to Spiritual Maturity (Part 2) Philippians 4:1-9

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REVIEW — Let's remember what we have learned in our study of chapter 4

The Setting — The Desire For Stability in Our Lives (v. 1)

"Therefore, ... in this way stand firm in the Lord, ..."

The Steps — Developing Stability In Our Lives (vs. 2-9)

I. CULTIVATE HARMONY AMONG YOURSELVES vs. 2-3

"I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord."

II. CONTINUE IN A SPIRIT OF JOY v. 4

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"

III. CONCENTRATE ON THE LORD'S PRESENCE v. 5

"Let your **gentle spirit** be known to all men. The Lord **is near**."

LESSON – Continued: 6 Steps to Spiritual Maturity, Part 2 (4:1-9)

IV. CALM YOUR ANXIETIES THROUGH PRAYER vs. 6-7

• The Problem - "Be anxious for nothing, ..."

Distinguishing between concern (Philippians 2:20) and anxiety (Matthew 6:25-34)

■ The Plan — "but in **everything** by ..."

"prayer" — It means we ask God to **HELP** us.

"supplication" — It means we ask God to help because we sense a **NEED**.

"request" — It means we ask God to help **SPECIFICALLY** with a need.

"with thanksgiving" — It means all our prayers are **BATHED** in thanksgiving because we know who God is.

■ The Promise — "and the **peace of God**, which **passes all comprehension**, will **guard** your **hearts** and your **minds** in Christ Jesus."

V. CONTROL YOUR THOUGHT LIFE v. 8

- The Pursuit of Right Thinking "... dwell on these things."
- The Parameters for Right Thinking "Finally, brethren, whatever is ..."

VI. CONSISTENTLY OBEY GOD'S WORD v. 9

- The Practice for the Believer "The things you have **learned** and **received**, and **heard** and **seen in** me practice these things, ..."
- The Promise in the Believer "... and the **God of peace will be with you**."

3 Keys to Experiencing God's Peace

Lord, I am anxious about _

Lord, this is my:

- 1. Biblical Prayer (v. 6)
- 2. Biblical Perspective (v. 8)
- 3. Biblical Practices (v. 9)