

## Peace (Philippians 4:6-7) Reflection Questions 12/07/2025

- 1. Do you usually feel peaceful during the holiday season, or does the stress and pressure tend to overwhelm you?
- 2. How does the Hebrew Old Testament concept for "peace" (in the word "Shalom") differ from our modern concept? How does circumstantial peace differ from the world's peace?
- In John 14:27, Jesus tells us that the peace He gives is different from that of the world. Often times, the world's approach is a "peace of avoidance" or a "peace of removal" from a challenging situation.

  Why is the world's approach to peace not always effective?
- 4. Why might God promise peace rather than an immediate end to our problems? How can peace coexist with grief, frustration, or unanswered questions?
- In Philippians 4:7, the apostle Paul describes God's peace as something that "transcends all understanding". What does Paul mean when he says God's peace "transcends all understanding"? Can you think of a time when you experienced peace in a situation where peace didn't make sense?
- 6. What are some unhealthy ways people try to find peace apart from God? How does the peace of God challenge the way our culture deals with stress?
- 7. Is anxiety a sin, a human weakness, or something else? How should Christians think about it Biblically?
- 8. How do you distinguish between healthy concern and unhealthy worry?
- 9. What would change in your life if God's peace consistently ruled your heart? In what area of your life do you most need God's peace to "guard" you today?
- 10. How can we practice the truth in Philippians 4:6-7 daily, rather than waiting for a crisis?