Peaceful Living, Part 1
Phil. 4:2-7

Getting Started

- How do you tend to respond when things don't go your way?

Key Ideas for Discussion

1. The Priority of Peace in Our Church Family (v.2-3)
2. The Pathway to Personal Peace (v.4-7)
   A. Rejoice Always
   B. Respond Gently & Kindly
   C. Stop Worrying!
   D. Pray Thankfully

TT: Our peace with God through Jesus provides the peace of God for all of life.

Digging Deeper **(Read the sermon text again and discuss the following questions.)**

- Go back and read verse 1. Why is this verse important to what he says in verses 2-3? If you heard verse 1 being read to you and then immediately the division issue is next read to you, what would you conclude?

- Let's talk about the division issue:
  - Have you seen a church experience difficult division and disunity? What happened and was it resolved?
  - Why did Paul plead with Euodia and Syntyche? (v.2)
  - How had they helped him in the past?
  - What does this tell you about them and the division that Paul brings it up in this publicly read letter?
  - **Read Matt. 18:15-18.** How does Jesus tell us to handle sinful behavior in and conflict with one another? Does this passage cover every kind of sin or are there situations and circumstances where another approach is required?

- Why is rejoicing so important for peaceful living?
- How does a strong belief in the sovereign control and goodness of God enable us to obey this command?
- How did Paul tell the Philippians to treat others in verse 5? What does the word "reasonableness" mean?

Apply It!

- In verse 6, Paul uses the nearness of Christ as a gospel motivator for peaceful living? Do you sense the presence of Jesus with you on a regular basis? If so, what does that look like?
- What do you have to pray for today with thanksgiving?

Think About It!

Of course, whatever we make known to God is already known by him. So why are we to do this? Because as we bring our requests, which reflect every possible cause for anxiety, we are casting all our cares on God and are declaring our absolute dependence upon him. This was the way the apostle himself prayed for all the churches—with extravagant glad remembrances of God's grace. (R. Kent Hughes)