

# PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice In  
The Lord!

## God Of Peace

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Lesson Forty-Four

# Philippians

## Rejoice In The Lord!

**Lesson Goal:** To teach students that living like Jesus will bring the peace of God.

**Scriptures:** Philippians 4:8, 9

**For Memory:** “Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think on these things.”  
Philippians 4:8

### God of Peace

In the sixth and seventh verses of Philippians, chapter four, Paul talked about the result of prayer. He said that it brings the peace of God. He said that God’s peace is more than humans can understand.

As he comes to the end of this letter, it seems as if Paul wants to gather up his thoughts and challenge the Philippians, once again, to live like God’s children. He also wants them to expect God to be with them. He lists some things that they should be thinking about as they live like God’s children.

First he says that they should think about truth. John 17:17 tells us that God’s children are set apart, selected, for being truth-tellers. And God’s Word, the Bible is truth. We should fill our minds with good, truthful things, things that won’t let us down, especially God’s Word.

Second, Paul says that they should think about things that are noble. You could say that he wanted them to keep their minds on respectable things, on holy things.

Third, Paul says that we should think about things that are right. We ought to be thinking on things that we know we should do and our thoughts will lead us to do them.

Fourth, Paul says that we should think about things that are pure. When the Jews of the Old Testament thought of this idea, they thought of a sacrifice cleansed so that it was fit to be brought to God. When we think like this, we can bring our thoughts to God and know that He will be pleased.

Fifth, Paul says that we should think on lovely things. The things we think about shouldn’t bring bitterness, fear, and other negative feelings. The things we think about should bring love. The word used here means “one who calls forth love.”...loveable.

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Sixth, Paul says that we should think of things that are admirable. This word, obviously, means that we think things that are appealing, but it is more than that. We might say that we should be thinking of things that even God would respect.

Paul goes on to say that these six excellent things and these things that deserve praise are what our minds should be on at all times.

Then Paul makes this startling statement: the way I have taught you, the way I lived among you, what you have heard me say or seen me do, you should do it. What a courageous thing for a missionary to say. There are very few missionaries and ministers who would dare say, live exactly like I live.

And finally, he says that if they will think like he has suggested, and live like he has taught them to live, the God of peace would be with them. This is one of Paul's favorite titles for God. By it he meant that when a person gives themselves totally to God, they will experience much more than the absence of trouble. He said that kind of Christian would experience everything that provides the best, the highest level of good that can come to a human...all that life was meant to be.

\*Underlined statements in this Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.



### Teaching Tips:

1. I Corinthians 4:16 records a situation where the Apostle Paul invites another church to imitate him.
2. Paul uses the title "God of Peace" numerous times. See Romans 16:20; I Corinthians 14:33; I Thessalonians 5:23.
3. Paul also refers to God as the "God of Hope." Romans 15:13. See also: Psalm 42:11
4. God is also the "God of Encouragement." Romans 15:5 And, He is the "God of Love." II Corinthians 13:11
5. Songs about peace, comfort, truth, purity, doing God's will and God's love are appropriate for this lesson. "I've Got Peace like a River."
6. Pray with your students: Thank God for calling us to be His own. Thank Him for making us like we are so that we can live like Him. Thank Him for peace.

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### *Student Worksheet*

**For Memory:** “Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think on these things.” Philippians 4:8

### God of Peace

=Things that the Philippians should be thinking about as they live like \_\_\_\_\_ children.

=First he says that they should think about \_\_\_\_\_.

=Second, Paul says that they should think about things that are \_\_\_\_\_.

=Third, Paul says that we should think about things that are \_\_\_\_\_.

=Fourth, Paul says that we should think about things that are \_\_\_\_\_.

=Fifth, Paul says that we should think on \_\_\_\_\_.

=Sixth, Paul says that we should think of things that are \_\_\_\_\_.

=Paul goes on to say that these six \_\_\_\_\_ things and these things that deserve \_\_\_\_\_ are what our minds should be on at all times.

=He says that if they will \_\_\_\_\_ like he has suggested, and \_\_\_\_\_ like he has taught them to live, the \_\_\_\_\_ would be with them. This is one of Paul’s favorite titles for \_\_\_\_\_. By it he meant that when a person gives themselves totally to God, they will experience much more than the absence of \_\_\_\_\_.

### How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that there is a God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God’s Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus’ name. Jesus’ death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.

Fifth, believe that He has answered your prayer, and be determined to live for him all the rest of your life.