

JOY: THINK WIN, WIN
Sermon 11: Stand Firm in the Lord
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TEXT: Philippians 4:1-9

SUBJECT: Spiritual Stability

NOTES:

- Paul addresses How believers can be spiritually stable.
- “**Stand Firm**” (*steko*) is the main Verb in vv. 1-9.
- It is an Imperative with a military emphasis.
- V. 1, Paul wanted to assure the believers in Philippi of his Devotion--“*my beloved.*”
- Expressing his Delight in them--“*and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown.*”
- 7 Basic Ingredients identified in vv. 1-9 that are Necessary for standing firm/fast in our Christian journey.
 1. Harmony—4:2-3
 2. Joy—4:4
 3. Graciousness—4:5a
 4. Confidence—4:5b
 - a. The Lord Is Near!
 - b. Because of the Presence of God, believers are to be “*anxious for nothing.*”
 - i. The Command is to “*be anxious for nothing*”—Stop Worrying!
 - ii. The Greek word for “anxious” means to be Pulled in different directions.
 5. Prayer—4:6a
 - a. Paul’s Counsel—“*Don’t worry about anything, but pray about everything!*”
 - i. The Negative imperative = “*Do not worry about even one thing!*”
 - ii. The Positive imperative = “*Let your request be known to God*”
 - b. Paul’s Clarification—“*but in everything pray...*”
 - i. When? “*in Everything*”—v. 6
 - ii. How?
 1. Adoration = “*prayer*”
 2. Supplication
 3. Intercession = “*requests*”
 4. Appreciation = “*with thanksgiving*”
 - c. Paul’s Confidence—v. 7
 - i. The Apostle understood that once the sinner has made “*peace With God*” (Rom. 5:1; salvation), he then can enjoy the “*peace Of God.*”
 - ii. Paul Defined this peace as that which “*Surpasses all understanding*”
 - iii. God’s Peace Will Guard Your Heart and Mind
 6. Thoughts—4:8
 - a. Finally!
 - i. “*Finally*” = Paul has arrived at the climax of his teaching on spiritual stability.
 - ii. “*Meditate on these things*” = *logizoma*, imperative;
 1. Spiritual stability is a result of how a person Thinks.
 2. More than just have thoughts about; It means to Evaluate; to consider; to calculate.
 3. This verb = Habitually discipline of the mind;
 - b. “*These things*” = 8 Virtues of Right Thinking
 - i. “True”
 - ii. “Noble”
 - iii. “Joy”
 - iv. “Pure”
 - v. “Lovely”
 - vi. “Good report”
 - vii. “Excellent”
 - viii. “worthy of Praise”
 7. Obedience—4:9
 - a. The Practice

- i. ***“These do”*** = present **Imperative**; continuous action;
 - ii. **Practice** these things
- b. The **Promise**
 - i. ***“and the God of Peace will be with you”—v. 9***