

Peace in Conflict

November 26th, 2017

Philippians 4:2-9

The Issue

“I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord.” (verse 2)

- ❖ Conflict, disagreement, adversity, offenses, and hurts are all a part of life – even in the church!

“I ask you...help these women...” (verse 3)

- ❖ Reconciliation, at times, requires help from others.

“To agree in the Lord” (verse 2)

- ❖ Agreement in the Lord is the only true means of healing in the church!
Colossians 1:17 “...in [Jesus] all things hold together”!

The Solution

“Rejoice in the Lord always...” (verse 4)

- ❖ Refocus on Jesus.
- ❖ We are Christians! *“...whose names are in the book of life”!*
Nehemiah 8:10 “...the joy of the Lord is your strength”!

“Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.” (verse 5)

Reasonableness: The Greek word is also translated “forbearance or gentleness.”

Colossians 3:12-13 “Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”

- ❖ Our actions always affect others!

Remember! ... “The Lord is at hand” (verse 5)

- ❖ The Lord is with us now ... *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” Psalm 46:1*
- ❖ The Lord will be coming again soon ... *“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,” Philippians 3:20*

“Do not be anxious about anything...” (verse 6)

- ❖ Division in the church is stressful!

“In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (verse 6)

Psalm 100:4-5 “Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.”

“The peace of God...will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

❖ God’s peace calms the stress and anxiety of strained relationships!

Isaiah 26:3-4 “You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.”

“Whatever is true...think about these things.”

❖ Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your ...mind...” *Mark 12:30*

Colossians 3:2 “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

Romans 8:6 “For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.”

The insights in Philippians 4:2-9 reveal the secret to
Paul’s peace in conflict and his joy in adversity!

*“What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me –
practice these things and the God of peace will be with you.”*

Endnotes:

- ◆ Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.