

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of November 3-9, 2024

## “PRESCRIPTIONS FOR PEACE”

-----

### GETTING STARTED

*To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.*

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Have you ever been in a situation where you were placed in the middle of a tense situation? How did you respond and how did it affect you?

### GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read Philippians 4:1-9.**

1. There's obvious conflict happening between Euodia and Syntyche. How did Paul deal with it? What do we learn about from this? Why was Paul so direct? How does it hurt the church when church members don't get along? How does it hurt us when we don't live at peace?
2. Who do you think is the “loyal yokefellow” mentioned in verse 3? Is this an easy thing or hard thing Paul asks him to do? How can we, like this loyal yokefellow, be a peacemaker in conflict? Have you ever been in such a role? Who has a story to share?
3. What was Paul's instruction in verse 4? What does it mean to follow this instruction to rejoice when there is conflict and when we are tempted to be complain or be grumpy?
4. Compare different translations for the command in verse 5. Imagine how different our world would be if everyone followed this one command. How would it change things? What would be different? Any examples or experiences you can think of?
5. Read verses 6-7. How big of a deal is worry to you? Are you the person who has “mastered” worry? What is Paul's prescription here? What have you worried about in the past days or weeks and have you really prayed about it?

6. How practical is verse 8? How can this verse help us have peace of mind?

7. Read James 1:22. How does this relate with Paul's instruction in verse 9? Why is Paul so confident that God's peace will be upon them if they obey?

### NEXT STEPS

*When the peace of God guards our hearts and our minds, the God of peace descends upon the church.*

- I will let go of resentment and bitterness, and forgive those who have wronged me.
- I will seek reconciliation and take the initiative to mend broken relationships.
- I will be joyful in my circumstances.
- I will not let my worries and conflicts get the better of me. Instead, I will respond in prayer.
- I will learn to filter my thoughts through the lens of Philippians 4:8.
- I will be a doer and not just a hearer of God's Word.

*Don't forget to:*

- Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

### CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for peace and unity in your relationships and wisdom to navigate through conflicts.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

### BIBLE READING GUIDE

November 4	Philippians 4:1-9
November 5	Ephesians 4:26-32
November 6	Daniel 10:12-14
November 7	Colossians 3:12-17
November 8	Matthew 6:5-15
November 9	Psalms 32:1-11
November 10	James 1:19-27