

January 15, 2012
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Galatians 5:22

“Walking By The Spirit, Part Eight”

- 1) Love (agape)
- 2) Joy (chara)

3) Peace (Greek: eirēnē)

- a) The Scriptural Definition: a deep-settled confidence that Almighty God is in control of the details of our lives even in the midst of conflicts and problems. Related to Old Testament Hebrew word shalom. (Is. 26:3; 2 Chron. 20; Job 13:15)

In this biblical definition we see PEACE as the spiritual twin to JOY!

- Joy = _____ of the _____
- Peace = _____ of the _____

- b) The Sinful Contrast – _____ - Greek: merimnao = “a divided mind” – (Mt. 6:19-34 cf. Phil. 4:19; Ps. 37:4; 1 Tim. 6:8; 1 Pet. 5:6-7; Phil. 4:6-8)

- c) The Supreme Example (Mt. 26:39)

- d) The Specific Commands (Phil. 4:6-7; Eph. 4:3; Mt. 5:9)

- e) The Spiritual Impact (Phil. 4:9; Rom. 5:1-5; Jn. 14:27; 16:33; Rom. 14:17)

Discussion Questions:

1. Share a story of the Holy Spirit producing love or joy in your life in recent weeks? What impact did this have on others?
2. Read the definition of peace on your outline. How deeply settled is your confidence in God's sovereignty? Would it continue to be that way if a doctor said you had a terminal disease? If you lost your job? If not, why not?
3. Look up the Hebrew word "shalom." What other synonyms are there for this word? Does your relationship with Jesus impact EVERY area of your life? Is there a "wholeness" about you because of Christ? Read Is. 26:3. It says there that God will keep you in shalom shalom (double shalom – "perfect peace") if you do what?
4. Why is anxiety the opposite of peace? What are the characteristics of anxiety? Why does God repeatedly command us to stop being anxious (or fearful) in the Bible? Why are we prone to be anxious and fearful? Read Mt. 6:25-34. What can we do to overcome anxiety and fear?
5. Read Phil. 4:6-9. What are we commanded to do to overcome anxiety? What are the specifics? What are the differences between prayer, supplication, and thanksgiving? After God gives us His peace what does v. 8 tell us to do? Why is this so important? According to v. 9, what does God promise if we do what He says in this passage? What is the difference between experiencing the "peace of God" (v. 7) and the "God of peace" (v. 9)?
6. Read Rom. 5:1-5. How are peace and joy ("exult") connected in this passage? How are both of those connected to a deep understanding of being justified entirely by grace alone through faith alone in the finished work of Jesus Christ alone?

[Answers to blanks: **exhilaration; heart; tranquility; mind; anxiety**]