

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

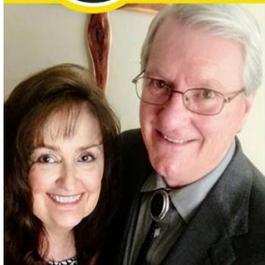
PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Kevin & Pam Barthel | Arizona



PRaise

- Praise God for 17 years of ministry on the San Carlos Apache Reservation.
- Praise God for a busy and fruitful summer of VBS, services, youth, and discipleship ministries.
- Praise God for strong VBS attendance and children that are receptive to the Gospel.
- Praise God for God’s protection during severe storms and flooding.
- Praise God for opportunities to preach the Gospel at funerals and share the good news.

PRAY

- Pray for all those effected by the flood. The church and church family were safe but many people in the community lost homes and belongings.
- Pray for Pam’s health, continued healing of her ankle, foot, and overall strength.
- Pray for wisdom, strength, and continued faithfulness in ministry.

ESCAPING TEMPTATION

Handout: 02/22/26

Study Date: 03/01/26

Escaping The Temptation Of Worry

In Paul’s letter to the Philippians, there are a number of things that they may have been worried about. Paul is writing to them when he is under house arrest, courtesy of the Roman Empire. The church in Philippi had supported his missionary work, and they may have been concerned for his well-being (Philippians 1). Apparently, there was some discord in the church with people acting selfishly, and they needed to focus on the example of Christ (Philippians 2). False teachers were also attempting to upset their confidence in Christ (and in Paul’s teaching) by teaching that some form of obedience to the Law was necessary for salvation (Philippians 3). And, finally, the discord in the church had reached such a point that Paul calls out two women by name and asks them to get along with each other (Philippians 4:2).

Paul then concludes his letter with the admonition in Philippians 4:4 to “rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” Here was a church facing external pressures and internal problems, and they may have wondered if it was even possible to break out in joyful celebration.

If discouragement over the problems addressed in the letter (or anything else) was robbing the Philippians of joy, then Paul gives the solution in Philippians 4:6. There is no need to fret and worry about the way things are. The solution is to give the problems over to the Only One who can actually do something about them. The Philippians are to pray in every situation, bringing their petitions (requests) to God and offering prayers of thanksgiving for what God has already done.

Paul does not promise that God will do every single thing they request. They were not being handed a blank check. But he does promise that, when the Philippians pray about things, God will change the Philippians themselves: “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7). When they really pray about their problems and choose to be thankful, God will give them peace.

Although written to the Philippian church, the principle of Philippians 4:6 applies to all believers. When we have problems and worries, we often forget to pray about them. Then, when we do pray, we may think that the only help that God can give is to grant the request as we have presented it and change the situation. God may very well do that. He has the power to change any situation, but He will not be limited to that. God does not promise to change every situation to our liking. What He does promise to do is give us peace during any situation. In other words, God may or may not change the circumstance, but He will change our disposition toward it so that it does not cause us inner turmoil. (Resource: Gotquestions.org)

KEY VERSE

Philippians 4:6 (NKJV)

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God.”

Read Philippians 4:6-9 Every Day

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Philippians 4:4, 6

Introduction

1. According to paragraph 1 on pg.1, what state was the church of Philippi in? What was Paul’s response to them in paragraph 2 on pg.1? (Phl. 4:4)
2. What is the “solution” to overcoming stress and *worry* according to Philippians 4:6? To *Whom* should we “lift up” our worries to?

Tuesday: Luke 12:25-28; James 1:5-8; Isaiah 26:3-4; 1 John 5:4

Trust Completely (4:6a)

3. What does Luke 12:25-28 teach us about the root cause of most worry? According to these verses do we really achieve “anything” by worrying?
4. How well do YOU manage your worry? How often do you allow yourself to get overwhelmed before applying the faith we learn from James 1:5-8?

Wednesday: I Thess. 5:17; Ps. 55:22a; 1 Pet. 5:7; Heb.4:16; Col.4:2

Pray Continually (4:6b-7)

5. II Thessalonians 5:17 tells us that we must “*pray without ceasing.*” What further wisdom is bestowed upon us in Psalm 55:22a & I Peter 5:7?
6. According to Hebrews 4:16 how must we approach “*the throne of grace?*”, What must we “give” to God when we make our requests? (Colossians 4:2)

Thursday: Proverbs 23:7a; II Corinthians 10:5; Romans 12:2

Think Correctly (4:8)

7. What value do you place on your thought life? What significance do you think it has to God? Reflecting on Proverbs 23:7a, what is in your heart?
8. When did YOU last have difficulty controlling your thoughts? How can II Corinthians 10:5 help you and others bring them into submission?
9. How would you explain Romans 12:2 to a new believer? Specifically, what it means to “*be conformed to this world*” and “*renewing your mind?*”

Friday: Pro. 13:15; Heb. 12:5-6; Rom 5:1; Ps. 119:165; Jn:14:27

Obey Constantly (4:9)

10. What warning is Proverbs 13:15 giving to us as believers? How will life be for those who choose “*the way of the unfaithful?*”
11. What extremely valuable lesson is offered to us in Hebrews 12:5-6? Why *shouldn't* we be “*discouraged*” when The Lord “*chastens*” us?
12. How could we best “sum up” the message of Romans 5:1, Psalm 119:165, and John 14:27? *What* specifically does obedience to God produce *in us?*