Philippians 4:6-7 "Getting Heard" A sermon Series on Prayer Community Group Questions August 21, 2022

Open: Read Philippians 4:1-9; read v. 6-7 especially slow 3 times

1. Share a time when you felt particularly anxious. What circumstances contributed to that anxiety?

Dig:

- 1. In v. 6 Paul is telling the Philippians to stop being anxious! Why do you supposed he added "about anything?" Consider the following scripture as you ponder this: Matt 13:31; Prov 12:25; Psalm 37:1, 7, 8.
- 2. Notice how many times the word God, Lord, or Jesus are used from v. 1-9. Note especially how many times those terms are used in v. 4-7. Why would he constantly refer to God in this text?
- 3. Notice the different terms used for prayer in v. 6. Why do you suppose he uses these different terms? What do each of them mean?
- 4. Notice v. 7. Why do you suppose the peace of God is referenced here? Consider Philippians 1:7, 16-17, 28-29; 2:26; 3:3; 4:2. What was it that Paul is saying would give them peace in the middle of those kinds of situations?

Reflect:

- 1. How could a prayer filled life offer protection for you right now?
- 2. Pastor Dave suggested that a prayer filled life consisted of at least three things: (a) Practice celebrating God as God every day v. 4 (b) Keep things in proper perspective v. 5 (c) Obsess over what's good v. 6, 8-9. Which of these three things are you most inclined to do? How will you do that this week?
- 3. Take time to pray over each other as a group about those things that are making you all anxious.