

“On a Joy Ride: A Trip Through Philippians”

Philippians 4:1-9

1. What stood out to you from the sermon or the passage of scripture?
2. Paul tells the church at Philippi they should “stand firm in the Lord” v. 1 and in v. 4 to “rejoice in the Lord always.” What challenges were Paul and the early Christians facing at this time, and how might they have reacted to this exhortation? Discuss specific ways we can “stand firm in the Lord” and “rejoice in the Lord always” in light of our circumstances and context.
3. What does Paul mean in v. 5 by “Let your **gentleness** be evident to all?” When have you been impacted and maybe even changed by the gentleness of another? What difference did it make to you?
4. Paul speaks not only to our behaviors, but to our thoughts, telling us to “not be anxious about anything” but to take it all to God. What specific strategies does Paul give us to renew our thinking when we are in times of friction or crisis? What can we do when we truly struggle with this, whether in our personal situation, when discord abounds in our community, or as we live in anxious times in a troubled world?
5. LGPC believes strongly in being a resource for those who are struggling in this way. Discuss our Shattering Stigma ministry and other ministries that can provide support, encouragement, and resources. How can others come alongside to help us renew our thinking, and how can we support others?
6. What is “the peace of God, which transcends all understanding?” John 14:27 reminds us that God’s peace is not the world’s peace. Talk about the differences between God’s peace and peace as the world sees it. Try to describe how that peace would feel. How do we seek and find His peace in a world that often seems full of conflict, busyness, fear, and hate?