

How to Find Peace

A well-known actor was asked the question, "With all your movies and successes and all your fame and fortune, what do you wish you had that you don't have?" His reply... "I wish I had peace."

Webster's Dictionary gives this meaning for the word peace: A state of quiet or tranquility; freedom from disturbance or agitation; applicable to society, to individuals, or to the temper of the mind.

Fear [the opposite of peace] can rob us of our sense of peace, well-being and joy in the Lord. When we don't deal with it properly and give it to God, it can cause us to struggle, even when things are good. It can hinder us from staying firmly connected to God when we need Him the most. Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV) says this: "You (God) will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You." And Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV) tells us: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

God never meant for us to live in a constant state of worry or anxiety. He doesn't want the cares of life to get the better of us. And His Word tells us in 2 Timothy 1:7 (MEV): "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, and love, and self-control." As His child, we can rest assured that He will never leave us to face the challenges of life alone. He'll never abandon us. His desire is to help us, just as He has promised in His Word. (See Joshua 1:9 & Hebrews 13:5-6.)

Our peace begins when we put our faith in Jesus and ask Him to be the Lord and Savior of our lives. His peace is a wonderful

peace ... a godly peace ... a peace that passes all understanding. And it's a peace found in no one except the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ (Isa. 9:6)!

Now ... What should we be praying and thinking about if we desire God's supernatural peace? The Bible's solution to dealing with worries that steal our peace is to turn to God in prayer, praise and worship, and trust Him with our cares and concerns ... "Cast all your care upon Him, because He cares for you" (1 Pet. 5:7, MEV).

First John 4:18 (MEV) says, "Perfect love casts out fear." When we know deep down in our hearts that God loves us with an everlasting love, that knowledge will help us hold onto our peace, no matter what we may face. Remember, we can trust in God with perfect confidence, because His love and power are greater than anything that can come against us (John 16:33 & 1 John 4:4).

Know this. The supernatural peace of God is not based on our circumstances. It's not based on how we feel, what resources we have in our bank accounts or what natural abilities we may or may not have. It's an enduring, God-given peace based on the fact that He loves us ... It's a peace that helps us press forward in faith, no matter what may come against us.

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