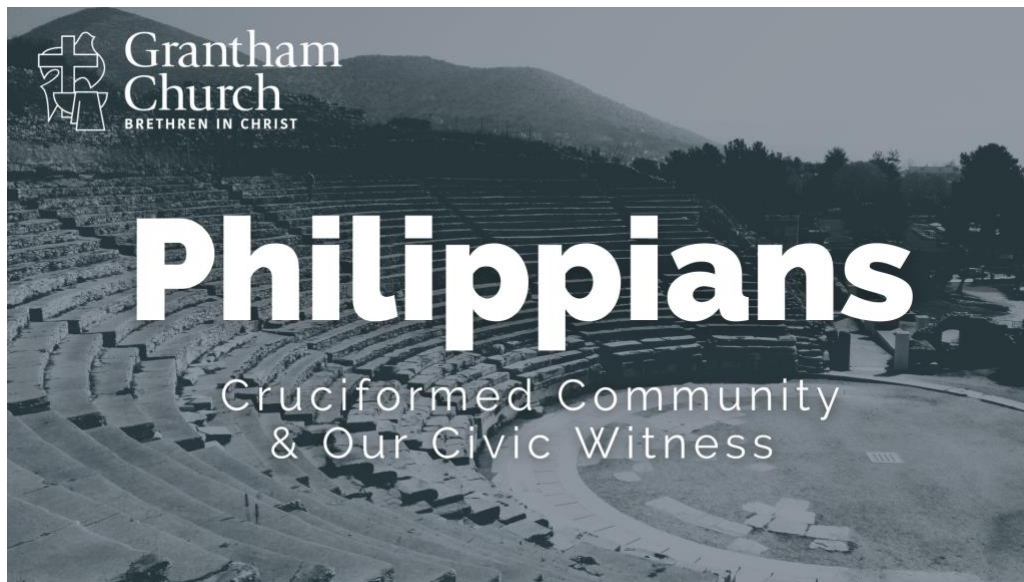


Philippians (7 of 8)
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, September 22nd, 2024



Series Focus: In his final days on earth, the Apostle Paul wrote a heartfelt letter to the church in Philippi from a prison cell in Rome. What does it look like to be faithful to Jesus in a world of competing allegiances? Is it possible for the church to remain calm, be at peace, and live with joy in a society that is seriously lacking it? And how do we live as “citizens of heaven” in a world seemingly going to hell? In this series, we will be encouraged to view all of life through the lens of the cross and to live out our faith together in humility, service, and love—all the while anticipating the Lord’s return.

Sermon Title: Our Focus on the Gospel

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:2-9

Sermon Focus:

Amid trials and suffering, Paul exhorted the Philippian church to stay united, rejoice, and not be anxious. But how? Peace is something we all long for, but something we often struggle to attain. In the seventh message of our series, Pastor Melissa helps us see that it’s when we are devoted to Christ and have a gospel perspective that we will truly experience peace, both within ourselves and in our world.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read Philippians 4:2-9 together. What stands out to you in the passage? Have you heard some of these verses before? How have you heard them being used?
2. In the first couple verses, Paul is urging two leaders/influencers in the church to “be of the same mind in the Lord.” What do you think this means? How does this connect with Philippians 2:2 and 2:5? Have you ever had a disagreement with a church leader or another believer? If so, what did or could it look like to be united in one Spirit and mind?
3. In verses 4-6, Paul is exhorting the Philippians to have joy, gentleness, and peace despite the potential ridicule and persecution they may receive as followers of Jesus. How are your circumstances similar or different to those of the Philippians? When do you find it difficult to rejoice, be gentle, and have peace?
4. Pastor Melissa talked about gentleness as the desire to win a person over winning an argument. Have you ever been in a situation where you found yourself trying harder to be right than to love the other person? What were the circumstances? Why was it difficult to be gentle? What might have helped the other person in that situation to know you care about them?
5. As you discuss verses 8-9, think about your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family. What are some of the things our society says are “true, noble, right, pure, etc.”? How does that differ from what the gospel says (and Jesus shows us) is “true, noble, etc.”? How do you find it difficult to demonstrate and communicate those gospel values?
6. For the closing prayer time, break up into groups of 2-4 people. In your groups, share something that makes you anxious, or share a person or situation that is on your heart from the discussion. Pray for one another, asking God to give you peace and to show you what he wants you to be concerned about. Ask God to help you see your circumstances and those around you through his gospel lenses. Then briefly discuss how you sense God speaking to you.