

Friendship Group Discussion Questions 3/05/2017

Sermon: "Peace" – Phil. 4:4-9

1. If you could only have a diet of three foods, what would they be? What if you could only have one of those three, which one would you pick?
2. Philippians 4:7 says "*And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*" What are the ways we tend to manufacture our own peace instead of looking to a greater peace that can be found in Jesus?
3. Philippians 4:8 says "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." If this list is a diet approved by the Great Physician of the universe, what are the junk foods we tend to fill up on instead? (Example: true/gossip, etc.)
4. Michael told the story of him buying used textbooks in college and then said, "We experience the totality of our lives, but Paul wants us to bold certain parts and focus on **those holy highlighted elements that reveal and remind us of the reality of God.**" How can this bring you peace?
5. On a side note, Michael taught that "if there is any excellence..." in verse 8 is not a biblical argument for pursuing perfection, but a practice of focusing on what's good. How accomplished are you at this practice in your life and how can it affect your contentment?
6. The last point of the sermon was that "God's peace is for His mission." That section included such quotes as, "God works in you so that He can work through you" and "God isn't going to fill your tank and give you peace to sit in neutral." Discuss.

Prayer focus: pray that each person could develop a lifestyle/diet of faith, empowered and fueled by grace, to rest in the peace of God that surpasses our and the world's understanding.