

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

Philippians 4:1-9

## The Prize

This whole letter is about the prize (3:14-15)

**"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."**

**"Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you."**

The rings around the **prize bullseye** are:

- Our **minds & thoughts**
- Our **hearts & emotions**

The Bullseye is our **Relationships!**

- With **God** & merged with **each other**

**Vs. 1, "Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved"**

- **Therefore** = As a consequence of
- **Brethren** (members of God's original family)
- **In the Lord**

We cannot **stand** anywhere (together) in the Lord, **He doesn't stand.**

**Vs. 2, "I implore (Your Name) and I implore (Someone else's Name) to be of the same mind... in the Lord."**

Eoudia = **Helper on the way**

Syntyche = **Unplanned Companion**

He's been working up to this the whole time

- **1:3-6, 10-11, 22-23 & 27**
- **2:1-5, 12-15, Timothy & Epaphroditus**
- **3:2, 12-15, 17 & 20**

Do you think it was a secret these two were having difficulty?

They may have all been thinking, **Thank You Paul!**

- Because their tension impacted **The Body**
- It felt too awkward to bring up

Two people **we know** are struggling in their relationship

- Whose side do we take?
- **Christ's** – He is not troubled

**Vs. 3, "And I urge you also, true companion, help these women"**

Who is the **"true companion"**?

- Syzygus = Someone who **helps other people with difficulties**
- It could be a noun, or someone's name

**Vs. 5, "Let your gentleness be known to all... The Lord is at hand."**

**How, you ask...**

**Vs. 6-7, "Be anxious for nothing"**

- **Anxiety corrupts Peace**
- Peace is **Absolute, inviolable relational safety & security**

- Peace = "Set at one again" – **Restored** relational security
- These two had lost their peace...
- And the peace of **The Body** was compromised

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 "In everything by **prayer and supplication**, with **thanksgiving**... let your requests be made known **to God**"

- **Ask God properly BEFORE** you offer help

.....  
 "And the **peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding"

- **His peace** (relational security) doesn't depend on **our understanding**
- So drop **our understanding**, in exchange for **His Peace**
- And **bring that** to those in difficulty (be Syzygus)

.....  
 What will **the peace of God** do first?

- It will guard **your hearts** (feelings)
- Once involved, they tend to get out front
- It will guard **your minds** (what you think will work)
- **His heart & mind** is more stable than ours
- Other offerings may not be effective
- Maybe you've tried them before (with the best intentions)

**Vs. 8, "Finally, brethren"**

- Henceforth, **it follows & remains** then...
- Fellow members of **God's original family** with Christ

.....  
 "Whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are **of good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is anything **praiseworthy**"

"Whatever things are... if there is any"

.....  
 Do you think they thought there are?

- Do you think there are?
- If you do...

"**Meditate on these things.**"

- Dwell on these things

.....  
 Follow the examples you've seen...

"And **the God of peace** will be with you."

- The peace of God, from the God of peace
- Will fill your minds & rule your emotions
- And help you into His very relational security

**The Prize of John 14:27, 16:33 & 17:20-23**