

Digging Deeper by Robert Lee
Sermon Series: *Call of Duty: No Retreat*
Sermon Title: *On Guard/Guard Duty*
Scripture Lesson: *Philippians 4:2-7*

Monday – Read Philippians 4:2 and pray for Spiritual Humility. Euodia which means “prosperous journey” or “sweet fragrance” and Syntyche which means “fortunate or with fate” were instrumental in establishing the Philippian church. These two influential women, however, were at odds with each other and in verse 2, the Apostle Paul pled for both to be of the same mind in the Lord. Paul does not take sides here, but instead encourages them to be reconciled. Also read Philippians 2:1,2.

Tuesday – Read Philippians 4:3 and pray for Spiritual Companionship. Paul called on the church to help these women settle their dispute. This text suggests that Clement and other co-workers were considered ideal resources for effecting a reconciliation between Euodia and Syntyche, since they all worked closely together in establishing the church in Philippi.

Wednesday – Read Philippians 4:4 and pray for Spiritual Joy. Paul encourages leaders of the Philippian church to do a reset, to get back to the days when followers of Jesus the Christ were full of God’s grace, love and power. Paul urged them to “rejoice” because the joy of Christians is not based merely on being on one accord, or in agreement with one another. Instead, joy is based on our relationship to God. Christians, be aware that facing trouble in this world is to be expected. But rejoice in the trials that you face, knowing that God is using our situations to strengthen us. Also read Romans 12:12 and Philippians 3:1.

Thursday – Read Philippians 4:5 and pray for Spiritual Acumen. In verse 5, Paul encouraged leaders of the church in Philippi to “let your gentleness be evident to all, for the Lord is near.” Read also Hebrews 10:37 and James 5:8,9.

Friday – Read Philippians 4:6 and pray for Spiritual Tranquility. In verse 6, the Apostle Paul warned the leaders of the church in Philippi against being anxious by making reference from a collection of sayings of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. Also read Matthew 6:25-34. Moreover, Paul urged the leaders to present their requests to God, in every situation, through prayer. Also read Ephesians 6:18.

Saturday – Read Philippians 4:7 and pray for Spiritual Protection. Paul’s list of instructions in this passage are to “rejoice in the Lord always” (verse 4), “let your gentleness be evident to all” (verse 5), and “present your requests to God by prayer and petition” (verse 6). The reward for following these exhortations is found in verse 7, where Paul states in part that the “peace of God will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” In reference to the heart and mind, Paul chose “guard”, a common military term, to likely imply that the mind

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which is in constant battle, and the vulnerable heart need adequate protection. Fill your hearts and minds today with Christ Jesus and the peace of God will protect you!