

**When God Feels Distant***Philippians 4:4-7***NOTES:****REVIEW: Matthew 6:5-13 (The Lord's Prayer)**

1. We need to be honest about WHY we Pray (v. 5-8)
2. We need a model for HOW to Pray (v. 9-13)

FOCUS VERSE: Phil 4:4-7

Phil. 4:4 *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

We must choose to live based on what is _____ and _____ (Phil 4:4-5)

Philippians 4:4 *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;*

James 4:8a *Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.*

God has shown us how to _____ to Him (Phil. 4:6-7)

When God Feels Distant...

1. ...Be _____ with God

Philippians 4:6a *do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication...*

Job 7:11 *"Therefore I will not restrain my mouth: I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul."*

2. ..._____ and _____

Philippians 4:6b ...with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

1. Acknowledge Who God Is (His Character & His Promises)

2. Ask God For Help (According to His Character & His Promises)

3. ..._____ What God Has Done For You (_____)

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 6:15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

Application/Reflection Questions:

1. Paul urges us to choose to live with a mindset based on the reality of who God is (Phil. 4:4-5). Begin each day this week by praying and choosing joy ("rejoice always") and acknowledging that God IS near to His people.

2. God gives us a pattern for how to draw near to him (Phil. 4:6-7). What is going on in your life that makes you feel anxious, worried, or far from God? Take this situation and practice this pattern (Be HONEST with God, ACKNOWLEDGE who He is and ASK, and REMEMBER how he has secured peace for us).

3. If you have acknowledged Jesus as your savior, who in your life needs to hear about this message? Pray for God to give you opportunities to share the gospel of peace in the midst of a chaotic world.

SONGS

GOODNESS OF GOD

THIS IS OUR GOD

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME
NAMES

BUDGET

Giving Last Week: \$24,478.46

Weekly Need: \$39,480.00

YTD Giving: \$101,909.21

YTD General Need: \$118,440.00

Altamont Expansion Fund (1/16/25): \$205,270.11

COMMUNICATION & GIVING

Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please drop envelopes off in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!

JOIN THE VBC FAMILY ROSTER

