



## CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Prince of Peace

SPEAKER Elder Low Kok Guan

THEME Jesus – Our Saviour King

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## The True Meaning of Christmas

We celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. But not only is it a day of celebration, it is also a time for us to reflect about the year that is coming to an end. With so many calamities in the world and the inevitable difficulties that we face in life, are we still able to find the peace that Jesus promised?

## The Prince of Peace

The book of Philippians was written by the Apostle Paul to the church in Philippi which he dearly loved. He wrote it to them while in prison and in the midst of conflict within the church. Still, Paul found his joy in Christ and he wrote to urge the Philippian church to do the same. Through the verses in *Phil 4:1-9*, Elder Kok Guan shared with us three main points:

### 1. RECEIVING THE PEACE OF GOD

The Apostle Paul commanded for us to rejoice in the Lord always because:

- a. God is near – He is with us always, even when we are troubled.
- b. We have a testimony to bring to the world.
- c. We can bring our requests before God – not because God is unaware of our needs, but to acknowledge our total dependence on Him.

Although Jesus did not promise us a smooth journey, He promised us a peace beyond our understanding, a peace that guards our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ (*Phil 4:7*). Therefore, do not be anxious or let our hearts be troubled. We trust in God and trust also in Jesus, the Prince of Peace. To receive the peace of God in our hearts, we are to count our blessings, worship Him and pour our hearts out before Him. When we hold on to His promises, we will find peace in Him!

### 2. KNOWING THE GOD OF PEACE

The real test begins after we receive the peace of God. It is not enough for us to simply receive the **peace of God**; we also need to have **God of Peace** with us (*Phil 4:8-9*). Whatever controls our minds controls our lives (*Prov 23:7*) – if we do not learn to guard our mind, the devil starts to sow thoughts in our minds that will make us doubt God.

Therefore, we guard our minds by allowing only the things of God to enter and obeying what God has impressed upon us. By doing our quiet time regularly, memorising and meditating on His Word, rejecting all ungodly beliefs and replacing them with what God says, we are able to put into practice what we have learned, received, heard, and seen in God (*Phil 4:9*). We grow towards spiritual maturity and Christlikeness as we obey Him, knowing that He is with us always, even in our struggle to obey.

### 3. EXPERIENCING PEACE WITH GOD

**When we believe in the Prince of Peace, we experience peace with God.** In *Phil 3:20 – 4:1*, Paul reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven and that our Saviour, Jesus, is coming back for us soon. When that happens, all things will fall into place under His power.

Therefore, stand firm in the Lord as we eagerly await His second coming, and with faith in Jesus Christ, we will find peace with God through Jesus (*Rom 5:1,8*), even when we face death on earth.

## Conclusion

One of the most heart-warming aspects of Christmas is God's amazing promise of peace. Our God is a God who demonstrates unfailing love and kindness towards us, His creation. He loves us so much that while we were still sinners, He sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, who is pure and holy, to die on the cross for our sins, and to be resurrected three days later, all for our salvation. When we receive Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, and truly repent, He cleanses us of our sins so that we can be with God again.

**Make your peace with God; believe in Jesus so as to receive the peace of God, and our God of peace promises that He will be with us!**

# QUESTIONS

**Why is it so easy for human beings to fear and worry? How do you usually face the fear and worry in your life?**

***In this season, what are the struggles that are preventing you from finding the peace of God?***

***Do you have peace in your heart as you cross over into 2017? What are some goals that you may want to set, or things you may want to do differently in order to be at peace in the Lord?***