

**August 5, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

**Phil. 4:6-7** *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (NIV)*

The LORD does not want us to worry or be anxious; not about anything! I know this is extremely difficult, in fact, it is impossible without walking in the LORD and the Holy Spirit's help. It's all about Who is in charge of our lives. If we are, we tend to worry and be anxious because we don't know what will happen in certain situations. But God knows everything, all the time. It just makes sense to trust in the One Who holds all things in His hands.

Now Paul writes to the church in Philippi with this exhortation: *in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.* This can only happen when we are abiding in the LORD's presence. But notice, it moves the responsibility for situations from our hands to His. And that, my friend, is where it should always be. He is able to handle all things because He is LORD overall. And so, we are to pray in every situation. We are to bring our requests into the throne room of God and lay them at His feet. He has invited us in. He has made a way through the precious sacrifice of Jesus.

And what is the end result of this? *The peace of God, which transcend all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds 'in' Christ Jesus.* There is no greater place to live than in the peace of God. He gives comfort. He gives help in times of trouble. He holds us in His hand and protects us from the evil one. And He shows us the way we should go.

**Dear LORD, as we look to You, help us to also rely on You. You will always come through. You will always meet all of our needs according to Your riches in Christ Jesus. We praise You and You alone. In Jesus Name, Amen**