

## Small Group Questions

Read Philippians 4:1-9

- I. The church of the Philippians was planted by Paul during his second missionary journey. The church was founded on the gospel message after God had revealed to Paul that he was to go to Macedonia to preach it. (See Acts 16:6–10.)
  - A. Why is it necessary to remember the centrality of the gospel in the life of the church?
  - B. Looking at Philippians 4:2, we hear about these two women in the church (Euodia and Syntyche) who were not united. Paul makes an appeal for these women to be reconciled in the Lord. Discuss how a lack of unity in the church can undermine the gospel message and the witness of the church.
  
- II. Paul encourages the Philippians to always rejoice in the Lord. This is a theme that we find in other Pauline letters. (See 2 Corinthians 13:11 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18.)
  - A. What/who should be the object of our rejoicing as Christians?
  - B. What are some reasons for Christians to rejoice in the Lord?
  - C. Why is it not easy to rejoice at all times?
  - D. Why is it helpful for us to reflect on the sovereignty of God in all things to be joyful?
  
- III. Worry and anxiety can rob the believer of the joy that is available to us through Christ Jesus.
  - A. How does this text exhort us to deal with anxiety?
  - B. Why is it necessary for us to come to God with thanksgiving when we pray?
  - C. How do we honor and glorify God when we bring our requests before him?
  - D. Is there anything in your life currently that you are anxious about? Why should we allow fellow believers to speak truth to us, and to pray with us when we are anxious?
  - E. How does worry and anxiety hinder our gospel witness?

Spend some time praying for each other in light of this text.