



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for August 22, 2010
Released on Wednesday, August 18, 2010**

"Pray About Everything"

Lesson Text: Philippians 4:2-14

Background Scripture: Philippians 4

Memory Verse: "...in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6).

Philippians 4:1-14

2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

3 And I entreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow laborers, whose names are in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

14 Notwithstanding, ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

TEACHER'S NOTES

Near the end of Paul's letter to the Philippians, he gave his friends some final words of counsel. They were to stand fast in the faith, live in harmony, rejoice over what they had in Christ, and be known for their exceptional kindness. He climaxed his list

with the well-known verse that tells us not to worry about anything but rather to take our problems to the Lord for Him to solve in His way. This week we shall introduce to the children the comforting truth that they can bring every trouble to the Lord and expect Him to do what is needed.

HOW TO SAY IT

CLEMENT. *Kleh-munt.*

EUODIAS. *You-o-dee-us.*

SYNTYCHE. *Sin-tih-key.*

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that rather than worry, God wants believers to bring every problem to Him, thankful that He always knows what to do.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Paul's letter helps us know how God wants His people to live.
2. God says when His people have problems, praying is better than worrying.
3. Instead of worrying, we should thank God that He is wise, good, strong, and wants to help.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For Beginning the Lesson, have a picture of Paul writing a letter.

For Telling the Lesson, make flash cards for numbers 1 through 5 and the word "Pray."

For Helping to Remember, each pupil will need a sheet of construction paper, two 1/2-by-10-inch brown paper strips, glue, and crayons.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each child.

BEGINNING THE LESSON

Do you remember the letter Paul wrote to help Jesus' friends in Philippi? (Show picture of Paul.) In one place he talked about five things that God wants His people to do. Since it is good for us to know how to please God, let us find out what those five things are. (Hold up your Bible.)

TELLING THE LESSON

(Show "1.") The first thing Paul told them was to "stand fast" (Phil. 4:1). We have heard that before. It means to stay true. Keep believing in Jesus no matter what happens. Keep pleasing Him no matter what others do. Keep obeying Him no matter what others want you to do. Jesus loves you, and He wants what is best for you.

Another thing that pleases God is seeing His children get along with each other. (Show "2.") Two ladies in the church at Philippi were not at all happy with each other. Each one thought she was right. Each one thought the other was wrong. They would not work together.

Paul said to them in a way, "Oh, please, ladies. Both of you are the Lord's people. You have worked with me to spread the news of Jesus. Do not argue with each other. Think together. Work together the way He wants you to."

Paul said Jesus' friends should be kind too. (Show "3.") Then others would look at them and think, *Believing in Jesus must be the thing that makes those people so very kind.*

"Rejoice in the Lord," Paul said. (Show "4.") Be glad because of what Jesus has done for you. He has taken away your sins. He has given you eternal life. When you have trouble, you

have Him to wisely and lovingly help you. When you are afraid, He is with you. Rejoice. Be glad all the time for those things.

Sometimes people do not rejoice because they are too busy worrying that something bad will happen. They think, *Oh, maybe this bad thing is going to happen. If it does, what will I do? What will happen to me?* The Bible says, "Do not worry about anything." (Show "5.")

Paul told the Philippians to do something else instead. He said, "Pray about everything." (Show "Pray.") That is really just another way of saying, "Tell the Lord what you are worrying about. Remember He loves you. Remember He is strong enough to do anything that needs to be done. Then believe that He will. Do not worry. Pray."

The memory verse says two things should be a part of prayers. First, there is "supplication." This means we can ask God to do something that needs doing, such as helping Dad find a job or making a way for someone to hear about Jesus. Second, our prayers should include "thanksgiving." We should thank God that we can pray to Him, and also thank Him for hearing and answering our prayers.

Praying and then believing that God will do something to help—that takes away the worrying. The Bible calls that having peace. Paul said that trusting God is another way Jesus' people could please God.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE

You please the Lord when you keep believing in Jesus, when you get along with others instead of quarreling, when you are kind, and when you are glad for what Jesus has done for you. You please God when you pray about everything instead of worrying.

Remember to pray this week when you feel like worrying. Remember that the Lord loves you. He wants you to tell Him about your troubles. He wants to take care of them for you. Ask Him, and then believe He will.

HELPING TO REMEMBER

Have the class glue their brown strips across their papers, beginning at left center, one sloping upward, one downward. They should print "The Prayer Road" on the upward slope and "The Worry Road" on the other. Then they can draw two stick figures, one smiling and one unhappy, each walking on his appropriate road.

EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT

"In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6).

The Lord does not want us to worry about some bad thing happening. Instead, He says to pray. He tells us how we should pray. We are to ask Him to make happen what He sees is best and to keep from happening anything that He does not want to happen. That is what we can do when we pray for others and for ourselves. While we are praying those things, we are to thank Him that He knows what to do, that He wants to help, and that He will help in the best way.

CONCLUSION

Lead the children to know that real joy and peace are possible when a believer pursues the life that is pleasing to Jesus and remembers God's promises.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we bring our prayers and supplication to You oh Lord with thanksgiving. Help us to leave these requests and burdens with You, for You will supply all of our needs. For this we thank You, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

Next week's lesson is "Keep On in Faith." While Paul was in prison in Rome for two years, he received many visitors and wrote many letters. Study Acts 28:16-25a, 28-31.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY

Willie Ferrell

Jesus Is All Ministries

www.jesusisall.com

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books.

Holman Bible Dictionary, Holman Bible Publishers

WORD SEARCH

"Pray About Everything" (Philippians 4:2-14)

Find each of the following keywords from the lesson:

BOOK	CAREFUL	COMMUNICATE
CONTENT	GOD	GOSPEL
HEARTS	JESUS	LIFE
LORD	MINDS	OPPORTUNITY
PEACE	PRAISE	PRAYER
REJOICE	REQUEST	SUFFER
SUPPLICATION	THANKSGIVING	WOMEN

R N L G G X H L U F Q S Y S C
F H O R I M N A F F M T T A H
L V Z I V P G D A A I R R G R
L T N E T N O C R N A E O N E
Z E K P K A D I U E F Q W I J
L E P O R J C T H U Q A O V O
R O O S E A R I L B Q U M I I
E B R S O O I R L I F E E G C
Y I U D P G F S O P C S N S E
A S K P S U F F E R P H K K T
R Q O E C A E P H O U U T N S
P C O M M U N I C A T E S A D
E K B D V J V C L N M W D H N
M X B J L W T Z Z I F B Q T I
H Y H Y Q P S T H O I T W J M

21 words were placed into the puzzle.

SOLUTION TO WORD SEARCH

"Pray About Everything" (Philippians 4:2-14)

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+ N + + + + + + + + + Y S C
+ + O + + + + + + + + T T A +
+ + + I + + G + + + I R R G R
L T N E T N O C R N A E + N E
+ E + P K A D + U E F + W I J
L + P O R J C T H U Q + O V O
R O O S E A R I L + + U M I I
E B R S O O I + L I F E E G C
Y + U D P G + S + P + + N S E
A S + P S U F F E R P + + K T
R + O E C A E P + + + U + N S
P C O M M U N I C A T E S A D
+ + + + + + + + + + + H N
+ + + + + + + + + + + T I
+ + + + + + + + + + + M
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(Over, Down, Direction)

BOOK (2, 8, NE)
CAREFUL (15, 1, SW)
COMMUNICATE (2, 12, E)
CONTENT (8, 4, W)
GOD (7, 3, S)
GOSPEL (6, 9, NW)
HEARTS (9, 6, NE)
JESUS (6, 6, SW)
LIFE (9, 8, E)
LORD (1, 6, SE)
MINDS (15, 15, N)
OPPORTUNITY (3, 11, NE)
PEACE (8, 11, W)
PRAISE (4, 5, SE)
PRAYER (1, 12, N)
REJOICE (15, 3, S)
REQUEST (9, 4, SE)
SUFFER (5, 10, E)
SUPPLICATION (13, 12, NW)
THANKSGIVING (14, 14, N)
WOMEN (13, 5, S)