

*Finding Purpose in a Downsizing Culture*  
**Philippians 4:4-7**  
**June 5, 2016**

Introduction

How does God's peace work?

It is connected to our new identity. (6-7)

- There is a difference between experience and identity.

It is connected to right living. (8-9)

- There is a difference between entitlement and gift.

Anxiety should drive us to the peace of God.

How do you create conditions for the peace of God?

➤ You reflect on the character of God. (4-5,8)

➤ **Then** you bring your concerns to God. (6-7)

### *Philippians 4:4-9*

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. <sup>9</sup> Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.