

PHILIPPIANS 4:2-7 – Discussion Guide

Living Out Our Faith: Some Do's & a Don't

When was the last time you had a disagreement or a “falling out” with someone? What was the root cause? How did you handle it?

Disagreements will happen – even between those who are normally loving, well-meaning, Christians. What is important is how we respond, how we handle our differences of opinion. In the verses from the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians that we are looking at today, he begins by mentioning two women who were living in disagreement.

Before we focus on today's main text, review & think about what Paul has already written in the following verses:

- **Philippians 1:27** –
- **Philippians 2:1-4** –
- **Philippians 2:14-15** –
- **Philippians 4:1** --

Read **Philippians 4:2-7**.

What does the fact that the Apostle Paul mentions these two women by name suggest about the magnitude of the problem they were experiencing with each other?

In **Philippians 4:2** what does Paul entreat them to do?

How does Paul describe these women in **Philippians 4:3**? And what request does he make of the “true companion”?

Paul was not immune to disagreements. Read what we are told in **Acts 15:36-41**. What was the disagreement? How was the disagreement “settled”? What might we learn from this account?

Disagreements can rob us of our joy and our peace. Paul writes about these next.

What command does Paul give in **Philippians 4:4**? What does this mean for us? Why is it possible for us to obey this command?

What command does Paul give in **Philippians 4:5a**? What is the meaning of “reasonableness” (ESV)? If possible, compare the words that various translations use in this verse.

What command does Paul give in **Philippians 4:5b-6** & what reason does he give for obeying these commands? What is it that makes you anxious? What is your response to anxiety? What are we told in **1 Peter 5:7**?

What are we told in **Philippians 4:7** will be the result of obedience to what Paul has commanded in the verses we have looked at today?

If your faith is in Christ Jesus, how are you doing at living out your faith as commanded in today's Scripture? What changes do you know you need to make to become more obedient to our Lord?