

## *God's peace*

Philippians 4:4-7

### *Some first words of explanation:*

When Paul wrote these words he was in prison for his faith. But he knew God was near and hadn't abandoned him. Like Paul, we can praise God and rejoice in his presence in the good times and the difficult times. As well as our worship and praise, God wants to hear our prayers about the things that concern us – this Bible passage isn't telling us to "just to put a brave face on it" or to "keep smiling". God knows we need his help.

### *A question to ask:*

"Is there anything you are anxious about that you would like to bring to God in prayer?"

You can use the suggested prayer and also mention specific requests.

### *A possible response:*

Speak about the reality of God's peace which is a blessing even if we don't understand it, and even if the situation causing the concern doesn't change much. For someone who is not a Christian you could share your own testimony of this experience of God.

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***Suggested prayer***

Lord, thank you for your willingness to be near us and to hear us when we humbly call out to you. We bring [person's name] concerns to you now in prayer and in faith.

We pray for ..... and place this situation into your hands.

We trust you to answer according to your will and [person's name] needs. We also pray that he/she may experience your peace, even beyond his/her understanding. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

(For someone who is not a Christian you could adapt this prayer to ask that the person would come to know Jesus, forgiveness for their sins and a real sense of the peace of God).



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