

#### Philippians 4:4-8 (KJV)

4Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8Finally, 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.

#### Introduction

#### Rejoicing in the Lord

First-century Christians have one good reason to rejoice. They are zealous of the soon coming of the Lord.

- It caused them to be ready.
- It caused them to work.
- It caused them to be watchful at all times.

#### Note

This passage speaks to Christian believers, not unbelievers.

Unbelievers do not have peace with God.

Unbelievers rejected the God of the Bible, questioned His existence, and cursed and opposed God. There is no peace between God and unbelievers. But when an unbeliever surrenders his life to the Lord and accepted Him as his Lord and Savior, then peace is made between him and God.

Peace begins to rule both within and between the person and God and surges through the heart and life of a new believer.

#### "Rejoice in the Lord always." (v.4)

 Believers must rejoice and gain strength by recalling the Lord's goodness, grace, and promises.

#### "The Lord is near." (v. 5)

- Believing that the Lord may come at any time
- Believers must be ready and watchful at all times.

## "Do not be anxious about anything." (v. 6)

- The one essential cure for worry is prayer.

"Do not worry."

- Some believers struggle for necessities, food, and clothing.

#### Philippians 4:19

But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

## "The peace of God passes all understanding" (v. 7)

- It is beyond anything we can ask or think.
- It surpasses all our imagination.
- The peace of God carries the faithful believers even in the midst of trials and tribulations.
- The peace of God keeps our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## The mind and thoughts (Think positive)

Peace comes from positive thinking.

The word "think" means:

- to consider
- to reflect
- to reason
- to ponder

Focus on thoughts that will shape our behavior.

- What we think is what we become.
- What we do is what we think.
- Our thoughts shape our behavior.

#### Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

#### Ephesians 4:23-24

<sup>23</sup>And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; <sup>24</sup>And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Once a person has been converted to Christ, he is to focus his thoughts on the things of God.

What we think is important as we think of God as our Lord and Savior.

### Believers are to think positively and practice positive thinking. (v.8)

Whatsoever things are:

- True
- Honest
- Just
- Pure
- Lovely
- Good report

#### Note

If there is any virtue, if there is anything praiseworthy, meditate on these things.



Blessed with a blissful day, United Christian Academy (UCA) journeyed to the South for the Educational Field Trip 2023 on March 24, Friday. As the school's first trip after the three-year pandemic, over 300 participants experienced fun activities and learned valuable lessons from this worthwhile program.

Participants happily visited the Gardenia Plant in Biñan, Laguna to learn how bread is made solely by machines. They also toured around Paradizoo in Mendez, Cavite that houses local farm animals, plants, flowers, and other tourist attractions. Lastly, they learned the future of urban farming as UCA brought them to Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center, introducing innovative ways of planting and food production in cities.

The trip was filled with joyful and fascinating activities, discussions, and games. Parents also bonded with their kids and learned with them along the whole journey. It was a day blessed by the Lord with protection and guidance. Praise the Lord for the ministry of UCA that holistically shapes and molds children into well-rounded individuals.

# **ASSEMBLY**

Early in the morning, students from pre-school to college excitedly arrived at school to prepare boarding into their designated transportation. Breakfast was distributed so that they can have a filling meal as they begin a whole day of activities.



They patiently wait at the UCA Auditorium with excitement for the places they will explore in the educational trip.

John 16:33 (NKJV) These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

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## **GARDENIA**

Students arrived at their first destination—the Gardenia Plant located at Biñan, Laguna. Here, they learned the step-by-step procedure of how the factory produces bread. Afterwhich, they toured around the actual factory and witnessed how the machines work. Gardenia also provided free bread after the whole tour. Freshly made Gardenia bread are also sold at factory price.







After the plant tour, each participant and faculty was given a freebie for their visit.





Mrs. Vanessa Malicsi
Parent

Indeed, this is a blessing from God since this is a one-of-a-kind experience. It is not just an educational trip for the children, but also a wonderful experience for them and for us as a family. Thank you, UCA!

"Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10 (NKJV)

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The school then toured around Paradizoo, where participants took their time appreciating the different creations of God, especially the various kinds of animals found in the zoo.



















Mrs. Aileen Cruz

This is the first time I and my son went on a fieldtrip. It is very enjoyable. Blessed kami na nakasama kami. Thank you, UCA.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV)

interact with and

feed animals like

ducks, birds, horses,

pigs, sheep, ostrich,

and rabbits.

<sup>6</sup>Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; <sup>7</sup>and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

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As their last destination, the participant excitingly went to Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center. One of the activities prepared was the Urban Farming Seminar where the speakers discussed different types of urban farming, such as hydroponics, aquaponics, aeroponics, and backyard gardening.









The purpose of this is for them to learn and understand how they can grow plants at the comfort of their own homes.



Ediel Dave Domingo student

What I learned about urban farming is that there are four types of urban farming like aeroponic, aquaponic, and backyard farming.

Natutunan ko na puwede ka pala magtanim at home kahit maliit ang backyard.

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. <sup>7</sup>Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. <sup>8</sup>It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.

Psalm 95:5-7 (NKJV)

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At the obstacle course, both parents and students enthusiatically participate in fun and exciting games led by the UCA staff and faculty. Camaraderie and cooperation are built as everyone engages in physical activities and friendly competitions.



"As a parent, I am very happy and grateful to see how my kids socialize with other students. One thing I appreciate is that UCA is very organized. The nature that we have in Mt. Tabor

Mrs. Analyn Fiedacan appreciate what we

taught us how to have right now."



sunny afternoon, everyone still has a jolly and fulfilling day as they meet new friends. Students get to play and bond also with their parents.



**Romans 15:13** (NKJV)

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

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## **РНОТОВООТН**

To keep a remembrance of their fun experience of this trip, a photobooth was set up for the parents and their children. It was heartwarming to see families and friends wearing their smiles on camera.



<sup>6</sup>Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, <sup>7</sup>casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NKJV)

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## **SERMON NOTES**

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.



### WHY READ THE BOOK OF 2 CORINTHIANS?

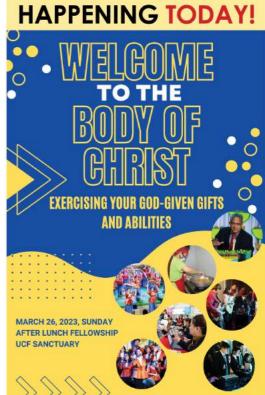


The Book of 2 Corinthians accounts how Paul and the believers in Corinth had a restored relationship after several rebukes he gave from the Book of 1 Corinthians. He found out that some of them were grieved with his prior letters, so he led them to repentance (2 Corinthians 7:8-16).

In this book, Paul shares the kind of transparency, joy, attention to relationships, integrity, reputation, service, dependence on God, ethical conduct, character, and encouragement that God calls all Christians to embody. In Chapters 8 and 9, Paul discusses generosity and timely

fulfillment of obligations as he teaches the Corinthians to contribute to the relief of Christians in Jerusalem, which they have promised to do. Here, Paul highlights how our needs are met through God's generosity so we could also have plenty to share to others (2 Corinthians 8:10-12).

While in Chapter 10 to 13, Paul points out the indications of godly leadership for the reason that there are so-called "super-apostles" who were leading some of the Corinthian churches astray (2 Corinthians 11:15). The Book of 2 Corinthians also contains important lessons for godly work. Paul passes on to his readers the Words of the Lord Jesus Himself, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9).









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