

Friday

Please read Philippians 4:6–7. How have the worries and fears you're facing right now robbed you of rest and peace?

If you were to ask God for "everything you need" right now, what would be the first three things on that list?

How could it help you deal with your fears and worries to have God's peace guarding your heart and mind?

Thank God today that His peace is more powerful than any fear or worry you are facing. Pray that you'll find rest in God's peace and that you'll grow in your dependence on Him to supply your needs.

Saturday

Please read Isaiah 41:10. In this verse, what is the main reason we don't need to be ruled by fear and worry?

Thank God today for His constant presence with you. Ask Him to give you a real awareness that He is with you as you go through the day. Pray that as you recognize His presence it will give you courage to face your fears and worries. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that, as we begin our summer speaker series, God would use these new voices to grow our church both as individuals and as a whole.



TWIN LAKES
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WEEK 7

How to Deal With the End of the World

JULY 23 & 24, 2011 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

Notice how Daniel responds to his visions of the future:

"I, Daniel, was **worried**. The visions that went through my mind **frightened me**.
Daniel 7:15 NCV

"I, Daniel, was **very afraid**. My face became white from **fear**, but I kept everything to myself." *Daniel 7:28 NCV*

"I, Daniel, became **very weak** and was **sick for several days** after that vision. Then I got up and went back to work for the king, but I was **very upset** about the vision. I **didn't understand** what it meant." *Daniel 8:27 NCV*

I said to the one standing in front of me, "Master, I am **upset** and **afraid** because of what I saw in the vision. I feel **helpless**." *Daniel 10:16b NCV*

The one who looked like a man touched me again and gave me strength. He said, "Daniel, **don't be afraid. God loves you very much. Peace be with you. Be strong now; be courageous.**" *Daniel 10:18–19a NCV*

4 words of encouragement for you:

1. _____ to fear

"...DON'T BE AFRAID..."

A form of the phrase "don't be afraid" is _____

"Do not let your hearts be troubled and **do not be afraid**." *John 14:27b NIV*

2. _____ I'm beloved of God

"GOD LOVES YOU VERY MUCH."

The word "beloved" is used nearly _____ times in the New Testament!

"We forget so quickly that we are God's beloved children and allow the many curses of our world to darken our hearts. Therefore we have to be reminded of our belovedness and remind others of theirs." —Henri Nouwen

3. _____ in God's hand

"PEACE BE WITH YOU."

"Peace be with you," he said. *Luke 24:36 NIV*

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you." *John 14:27a NIV*

Do not worry about anything, but pray and **ask God** for everything you need, **always giving thanks**. And God's peace, which is so great we cannot understand it, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6–7 NCV

4. _____ His strength

"BE STRONG NOW; BE COURAGEOUS."

"Don't be afraid, for I am with you. **Don't be discouraged**, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand." *Isaiah 41:10 NLT*

How it all ends (Daniel 12:8–13)

I heard what he said, but I did not understand what he meant. So I asked, "How will all this finally end, my lord?"

But he said, "Go now, Daniel, for what I have said is kept secret and sealed until the time of the end. Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. As for you, Daniel, **go your way until the end**. You will get your rest, and at the end you will rise to receive your **reward**." *Daniel 12:9–13 NLT*

The big idea of Daniel: _____

Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Daniel 10:16. What did you learn in last weekend's sermon about how to handle the emotions that can arise when studying prophetic Bible passages?

Write down one thing (or more) in your life that is worrying and frightening you right now:

What is something from last weekend's sermon that encouraged you and how?

Thank God today that He is in charge of the future. Thank Him that He has a plan. Talk to him about the thing(s) you're worried and frightened about. Ask God to help you grow in your trust in Him.

Tuesday

Please read Daniel 10:18–19. Let's take these encouraging words from God phrase by phrase. Look back at the answer you wrote down yesterday about what is worrying or frightening you, then next to each phrase write down how it gives you strength to hear God say:

Don't be afraid:

God loves you very much:

Peace be with you:

Be strong now, be courageous:

Thank God today that in the midst of a worrisome and frightening life God reaches out to give you encouragement. Ask Him to help you apply the encouragement from today's verses to your life and begin to change your thoughts.

Wednesday

Please read John 14:27. Sometimes it doesn't feel possible to "refuse to fear" — fear can seem so overwhelming. What reason does this verse give you not to fear?

What stops you from accepting God's peace?

How could God's peace help change your view of your fears?

Thank God today for the gift of His peace. Talk to Him about you're the fears you're facing right now. Ask Him to give you the desire to dwell in His peace instead of your fears.

Thursday

Please read Colossians 3:13–14. These verses give us a glimpse of how God can use each of us as we grow in our understanding of our "belovedness" in God's eyes. In what way to do you struggle with accepting that you are beloved of God?

How can understanding God's love help you in your struggle with fear and worry?

According to these verses, how can understanding God's love help your relationships?

Thank God today for the fact — the fact! — that if you are in Christ, He calls you His beloved. Ask Him to give you the courage to believe that and live like it!



Memory Verse

In my distress I prayed to the Lord,
and the Lord answered me and set me free.
The Lord is for me, so I will have no fear.

What can mere people do to me?

Psalms 118:5–6 NLT