

## The Great Trade

### Today's Reading Philippians 4:1-9

If you have been following the devotional readings this week, you are aware of the different emphases we have made. You have seen the value of Bible memorization. You have learned some helpful tips to memorization. You have been encouraged to identify and memorize a verse of your choice related to temptation. Our studies have also challenged you to be prepared to share the hope you have in Christ with the memorization of a key verse like Romans 6:23. Are you working on those verses? Regular review is key. Write them on a scrap of paper or 3x5" card and carry them with you so that you can go over them throughout the day.

I hope that you are not counting the days until the emphasis on memorization is over (and you can stop thinking about memorizing). I hope it is your growing passion to make Bible memorization part of your ongoing practice...a spiritual "HABIT." Some do this by identifying a verse each week that they commit to memory. You can establish your own pattern.

Beyond temptation and evangelism, another key area to focus your memorization energies is that of anxiety. I am guessing that you are like me in that there are anxious feelings that occasionally

pass through your mind. On some occasions, they don't just pass through. Some of them seem to pitch a tent and not want to leave. That is when I need reminders like those found in Philippians 4:6,7:

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

Because I have committed that verse to memory, I am regularly reminded that I should take any and every anxious thought to the Lord (regardless of its size or even of how ridiculous it may seem). I also become aware of the great trade that God wants to make in my life. If I surrender my anxiety, he will replace it with inexplicable peace.

That's worth memorizing!



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