



**SERIES: July Series “OFF ROADING”**

**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**

**Friday, July 9, 2021**

**Scripture: John 14:27 / Philippians 4:6-7**

**TITLE: No Fear; Know Peace**

I used to joke with my kids that if I were going to build a really terrifying haunted house for adults, it would have nothing to do with ghouls and ghosts. It'd be rooms filled with IRS tax auditors, doctors with bad reports, horrible bosses, and of course, basements that are backed up with sewage. Of course, my kids look at me blankly and say, “You're weird. That's not scary.” “Oh, just you wait. It will be. It will be.”

We all face fear. Irrational fear. Healthy fear. But we all face it. If you are fearful today, Jesus has a message for you:

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid” (John 14:27, ESV).

Jesus offers the believer peace that the world cannot provide. When the doctor says, “cancer,” you can say, “It is well with my soul.” When you come home, and your basement is flooded with sewage, you can say, “God's got this...now, hand me a shop vac.” When the car dies, you can pray, “God, I need your help. Fix this car or get me to a mechanic that I can afford.”

God does not want you to be afraid. Your problems are never bigger than God. The question is, will you receive it? How can you receive this peace Jesus offers?

Listen to Paul's words in Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT): “Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup>Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”

We don't need to worry. We need to pray about everything. You see, Jesus offers divine peace. We need to ask for it with gratitude and receive it with expectancy. Many people want peace. But they fail to ask for it and then be willing to receive it. When we keep our eyes on the Father, our problems don't seem so big.

So here's my challenge for you today: ask God for that peace with gratitude. So begin by thanking God for His faithfulness to you. What specifically has God done in your life to care for you? What has God done to provide and protect you? Tell Him and thank Him. Then you are in a place to ask for that peace He offers. And then be willing to receive it. No problem is too big for God to move you through it. No trial is too hard that God can't protect your heart from it. So ask and receive that peace.

Now go win the day.