

# **LIFE Group Leader Handout**

**Title: The War for Peace**

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## **Scripture--Philippians 4:8-13**

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, **think** about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—**practice** these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

10 I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. 11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I **can do** all things through him who strengthens me.

## **Main Idea--We CAN Win the War for Peace--God's Peace**

Be not content--

- With adverse conditions that can be changed
- With injustice
- With your level of spiritual maturity

Seven Common Areas of Discontent--

- A personal "prison"
- My "unchangeables"
- If married, my spouse
- If unmarried--my current status
- My children
- My parents (or my spouse's parents)
- The reactions of others

How hard is it to arrive at this level of contentment? *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.* (v. 13)

What are the tools that God places in our arsenal?

- Pray
- Think
- Do

And the peace of God, and the God of peace will be with you.

## **Application--**

- How novel is the idea of "fighting for peace" to you?
- Looking at the Seven Common Areas of Discontent, if 0 is contentment and 7 is total discontent, what number would you assign to yourself at the present time?
- Which of the tools in the arsenal (Pray, Think, Do) do you need to pick up and use more frequently and thoroughly?
- In the area of thinking, God's word tells us to choose what we think about. How is that going for you this week? What helps you to guide your mind into thinking about these things?

*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.* (v. 8)