

The logo for "Pointes to Ponder" features a central silhouette of a head with a glowing brain. Three dotted lines radiate from the head to three circular icons: a heart, a hand, and a person. The text "Pointes to Ponder" is written in a white, sans-serif font across the top of a green rectangular background.

Pointes to Ponder

How To Fight Fear.

So much of the world is fighting for hope and fighting against fear of what might happen both physically and financially. They are telling us not to fear, but from the spiritual perspective, the world *should* fear because judgment is real and it's imminent. We will all perish if we don't repent and turn to God. That is true fear.

But the fear the world is calling for isn't rooted in reality. It's calling for a kind of fearlessness that we see in movies, where the cocky heroes keep their cool in dangerous situations and flaunt their boldness. That kind of fear will not end well.

There is a fearlessness and peace that is real. And it comes from God for those who have trusted Christ as their Savior. It's crystal clear in God's Word that He commanded and offers a life of fearless peace.

Philippians 4:6–7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (NASB95)

Is it really possible for a Christian to be anxious for nothing? It is possible as long as we keep praying. Prayer is the secret to fearless peace. The grammar says that we are to be continuing to pray (present tense) and that it's not an option, it's a command (imperative mood).

The rest of the verse goes on to explain how our lives can be free from sinful fretting. Everything should be taken to the Lord in prayer. Everything means everything. There is nothing too great or small for His loving care! So, are you praying? When was the last time you had family prayer. Now is the time to start since we're all home with all our actives called to a halt.

So the secret to fearless peace is pray. But what kind of prayer? It's to be prayer with "thanksgiving." Someone has summarized this verse by saying that we should be "anxious for nothing, prayerful in everything, and thankful for anything."

That's our part, but notice that when we are obedient, God will do His part. He promises that thankful prayers He will give us a peace which "surpasses all understanding" and will "guard our minds." The peace of God is a sense of holy repose and complacency which floods the soul of the believer when he is leaning hard upon God.

If we obey what God tells us, we will find a wonderful element of mystery about it. We will be surprised at our lack of anxiety in the face of the tragic or adverse circumstances we find ourselves in. God will place a garrison around our minds. What a needed salve in this day of fear.

Pastor Jim