

THE



MISSING

PEACE



PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9



RECOGNIZE GOD



is the source of our joy

v4

REJOICE *chaírō*

full of cheer, calmly happy



***Our joy is seen in our intentional
choice to praise God regardless of
what we may face***



**REFLECT
GOD'S**



character in our behavior

v5

GENTLENESS *epieikēs*

gentle, patient, moderate



The display of Christlikeness in our crisis is a deliberate choice to extend grace and be in peace regardless of how we feel



RELY

FULLY



ON GOD

v6-7

ANXIOUS *merimnáo*

- To be troubled with cares
- Having unreasonable anxiety
- Attempting to carry the burden of your future self



*We experience peace when we
fully surrender our cares to God
and live in complete trust in Him*



RENEW

YOUR

mind with what is good

v8-9



THINK *logízomai*

- reckon, calculate, take into account
- ponder, let one's mind dwell on



FAITH

“What if we knew exactly when we would pass from this earth?”: Living with a rare and incurable cancer, he cherishes the grace of not knowing

Damein Cheong // June 24, 2026, 10:30 am



Diagnosed with a rare cancer in February 2022, the author reflects on outliving the initial prognosis of six to 14 months. Photos courtesy of Damein Cheong.





If I knew the precise date of my death,
I think I'd live in fear. I might stop hoping
and hesitate to say "yes" to things that
God is calling me to.

Or worse, I might despair and slip into
nihilism. What's the point of building,
planting and striving if it is all going to
end anyway?

Perhaps there really is some truth in the
phrase "ignorance is bliss". Not the kind
of ignorance that comes from denial,
but the kind that leaves space for grace.
The kind of unknowing that allows us to
keep walking without fear paralysing our
every step.

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I've learnt that peace doesn't come from being ignorant. It isn't rooted in radical acceptance, but rather, in dependence on a loving God.

The Lord invites us not to shoulder the burden of our fears alone. *"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you"* (1 Peter 5:7). He draws us near to Him.

Like a child leaning on a parent's chest, we are held in the safety of His embrace. While we might not know what the future holds, God certainly does.

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Scripture, too, calls us to live in the present. Jesus said: *“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own”* (Matthew 6:34).

That’s not avoidance, but a daily walk of trust, one uncertain step at a time, into the mercy of an all-knowing God.

The date, the hour, the countdown – such knowledge is too great a burden for the human soul. Not knowing isn’t a punishment; it is His protection and mercy.

A strange grace that allows us to live, not in denial, but in trusting Him.

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