

“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.” Philippians 4:7

I was looking for my pink hairbrush. The last time I finished brushing, it landed in the bottom of my oversized cotton paisley pocketbook. The keys fell on top. Then, my calendar fell on top of that. My makeup case was next, and finally my change purse rested on the same pile. Too much stuff!

I dug deeply down into the pile. I decided I must be crazy and that I had put the brush somewhere else. Suddenly, something shifted, and I saw a tiny bit of pink peeking out. What I thought had been lost, was found. It was there all along. Was I glad! Without my hairbrush, my hair goes in all directions! It surely won't fall in place on its own.

One day, I was digging deeply into life's pocketbook of stuff. I had thrown peace somewhere down there under schedules, worries, financial stress, groceries, family needs, shopping and work. I could not find it. Peace was buried under stuff. Suddenly, something shifted, and I saw a tiny bit of peace peeking out. Was I glad! Without peace, my life goes in all directions.

It's worth everything to dig a little deeper and find peace. Only then can the rest of my stuff fall in place.

The peace of God moves gently through our cares and all of our “stuff,” reminding us that God has more for us. There is a way to live life fully alive to the needs of your family and friends, and still have a peace that is a remedy to the extreme difficulties of your life.

My mother had this kind of peace, and I watched her display it daily. When she was called upon at the age of 79 to care for my daddy after his stroke, she dug deeply through the maze of health care workers, insurance and financial responsibilities that had always belonged to him and found peace. She watched over the constant care of an intelligent man no longer able to make decisions or to walk. She displayed peace for seven years, as my daddy grew worse. I loved to go sit by her side during those days and view the peace she had. It truly transcended my earthly understanding. I found peace, too, as I sat in my mother's presence.

What difficulty are you facing today? Has your peace fallen under your lists of things to do and the constant demands of life? Dig a little deeper. It's there. You can find it. Watch the pile

of stuff shift as peace peeks out from under your load. God's peace will truly guard your heart and soul. You can make it today. Ask for peace.

*Prayer: Dear Lord, sometimes I think that if I don't get my "stuff" done, I will be more anxious and more pressured. Undergird all the necessities in my life today with your peace."*