

"I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it.

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:10-13

Who Do You Think You Are?

Disciples are _____.
Matthew 28:18-20

We take our cue for _____ from the Lord.
Hebrews 5:8

What's the Secret?

1. Learning contentment is a _____.

2. _____ is the pathway to contentment.
James 1:17; Psalm 95:1-2

3. We learn contentment by following Paul's _____
and by the teaching of the _____.
Philippians 4:9; John 14:26

Contentment

True Contentment

1. Christian contentment isn't _____.
Philippians 4:11-12

2. Being content _____ every circumstance doesn't mean we're
happy _____ every circumstance.
2 Timothy 4:9-12; Corinthians 1:8

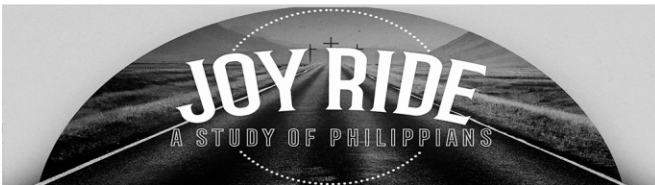
3. Christian contentment is the _____ that Christ
is _____.
Philippians 4:13

Acknowledgements: Sources used in the preparation of this message include books and material presented by Tim Keller, Jon Tyson, Alistair Begg, Martyn Lloyd Jones, Karl Barth, and many more.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord and Savior for the first time today.
- Memorize Philippians 4:13.
- Ask God to help me put Paul's example into practice.
- Take time this week to give thanks to God for the good gifts He has given.
- Get the most out of this weekend's teaching by attending my Life Group this week.





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Philippians 4:10-13

Who Do You Think You Are?

Disciples are **learners**.

Matthew 28:18-20

We take our cue for **learning** from the Lord.

Hebrews 5:8

What's the Secret?

1. Learning contentment is a **process**.

2. **Gratitude** is the pathway to contentment.

James 1:17; Psalm 95:1-2

3. We learn contentment by following Paul's **example** and by the teaching of the **Spirit**.

Philippians 4:9; John 14:26

Contentment

True Contentment

1. Christian contentment isn't **circumstantial**.

Philippians 4:11-12

2. Being content **in** every circumstance doesn't mean we're happy **with** every circumstance.

2 Timothy 4:9-12; Corinthians 1:8

3. Christian contentment is the **conviction** that Christ is **enough**.

Philippians 4:13

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Discussion Questions - Week #4

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, "Contentment," summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

- In the message this weekend, we focused on the idea of contentment. We are flipping the script; when is it acceptable, if not appropriate, to be discontent?

- What areas in your life are you most likely to struggle with a lack of contentment?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. One of the most significant challenges we face as Jesus' disciples is the struggle for contentment in a world that promises fulfillment through an endless stream of material means. Read Psalm 37:3-24, 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and Hebrews 13:5-6. Which verse or verses speak to you most and why?

Where do these verses suggest we are to find our contentment?

Why do you think so many people seek contentment comes from material things?

Do you think it's possible to find lasting contentment apart from Christ?

How does Christian contentment differ from the worldly pursuit of it?

What practices or behaviors could we engage in that would bring us closer to contentment?

2. Read Luke 12:13-21. In verse 15, Jesus says, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed". Other than material possessions, what are things people can be greedy for?

What was wrong with the rich man's plan to build bigger barns?

Do you think "building bigger barns" is ever the right thing to do?

In verse 15, Jesus says, "Life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Based on this passage, if someone said, "OK, what does life consist of?" How would you answer them?

What do you think it looks like to be rich toward God?

FOR PRACTICE

☞ In this weekend's message, I shared that gratitude is the pathway to contentment. Consider setting aside time this week to say thank you to God. To make it practical, you could choose a Psalm of thanksgiving like Psalm 100 and begin and end each day by praying it back to God.

SHARE IT

☞ Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

☞ Pray for our mission partners working amongst Muslim communities in India. Pray for their continued perseverance in challenges and reliance on God for their every need. Also, pray for continued power and protection as the adversary responds to their taking ground for the Kingdom.