

Use this guide to help your community group engage further with this week's sermon.

Secret of Contentment (Philippians 4:10-13) August 18, 2024

- 1. In your experience, how do contentment and discontentment impact people's lives? How do people look for contentment? How do they avoid discontentment?
- 2. Discuss how the following aspects of contentment encourage and challenge you.
 - a. Contentment is the freedom from want (Phil 4:11).
 - b. Contentment is independent of circumstances (Phil. 4:12).
 - c. Contentment can be learned (Phil. 4:11-12).
 - d. Contentment is based on knowing Christ deeper (Phil. 4:13).
- 3. Disappointment is the experience of not getting something you want or need. As discussed in the sermon, it can be related to finances. It can also be related to other areas of your life. Discontentment can grow out of disappointment when you want something so much that you demand it and do whatever you can to get it.
 - a. What is the difference between needs and wants? How do we distinguish between the two in our daily lives?
 - b. As humans created in God's image, what physical, spiritual, emotional, and cognitive needs do we have?
 - c. Is it sinful to want something that you don't need? Explain.
 - d. How do you typically respond to disappointment in your life?
 - e. When did you want something so much that it became a demand in your life?
 - f. How is it possible for disappointment to lead you to worship and depend on God?
- 4. Discuss how God is using His Word to transform your life right now.
 - a. Where in your life are you currently experiencing disappointment? How are you responding to this? Does your response indicate contentment or discontentment?
 - b. Knowing that you can learn contentment through knowing Christ deeper, what's one step you could take to know Him better this week?
 - c. How does this passage make you thankful for God's grace through Christ?
 - a. In light of what we've discussed, how would you like our group to pray for you?