

LifeGroup Questions
Based On: Philippians 4:10-13
January 3, 2016

Overview

A frequently quoted passage of scripture is Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." In order to fully understand this verse it is necessary to read the verses prior starting at Philippians 4:10. In this passage Paul is writing to the church at Philippi about their financial support. They have sent him financial support before which is recorded in 2 Corinthians 8. It is interesting that Paul records his joy as not being found in the gift, but in the Lord. Throughout this passage Paul is talking about the topic of contentment.

Webster dictionary defines contentment as a state of happiness and satisfaction. Based on this definition contentment is defined by a person's current circumstances. Contentment becomes completely circumstantial and does not include God. Paul's contentment was based on his relationship with God. Paul starts in verse 10 by stating his joy is in God and ends in verse 13 by stating all his strength is from God. Although Paul does not specifically say what his secret to contentment was, throughout the passage he focuses on his relationship with God. Being in want and hungry does not bring about happiness and satisfaction. According to the world the secret of contentment is to have all your needs met in every area of your life. Paul learned by experience that contentment can only be found in God.

Bible Study: Philippians 4:10-13

1. Discuss some times when you felt truly content over the past year? What was going on? How did the feeling of contentment impact your attitude and relationships?
2. What would contentment look like in various areas of your life? Relationship with God, Finances, Relationships, Work
3. Read Philippians 4:11. What is something you have experienced that has taught you contentment?
4. Self-control is a key component in finding contentment. What role, if any, can generosity have in finding a sense of contentment?
5. Read Romans 12:2. Discuss as a group how the world defines contentment. What steps can believers take to avoid falling into the trap of this worldly definition?
6. In what ways have you experienced God providing for you in a time of need?
7. For 2016, what area of your life do you see the biggest need for finding contentment? How do you plan on making this happen? What ways can the group help you find contentment in this area?