

## Community Group Guide

### Philippians Week 12

### “The Secret of Contentment”

### Week of July 19

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#### Check-in

1. How are you connecting with your neighbors?
  2. What have you seen God do?
  3. How have you been able to serve your neighbors?
  4. What has God shown or taught you?
  5. Have your habits or patterns changed to be more intentional in your community?
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#### Scripture

Read *Philippians 4:10-23*

#### Key Point From Message

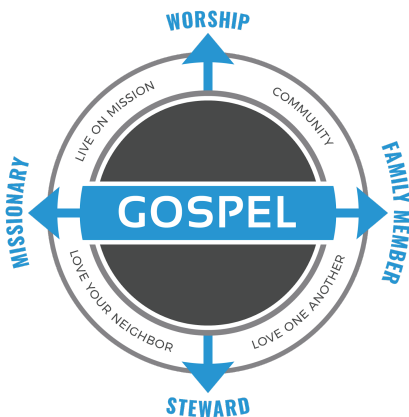
→ Contentment isn't found in my circumstances or situations; it's found in Christ

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#### Discipleship Group Framework

D-group discussions in smaller gender-specific groups help to reveal our blind spots to sin. If this week is a D-group week, the discussions should be focused on confession of sin, providing accountability, and encouraging each other to live in the gospel. Focus on the questions under the “Discover” section and how this week's Scripture relates to our lives.

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#### Image Church Core Values

When the gospel defines our lives it should impact everything we do. Living by the gospel should cause us to:

- Grow towards God through daily worship
- Love one another by gathering as family members
- Mobilize as missionaries for God's kingdom
- Be more generous stewards as we leverage our time, talents, and treasures for Christ.

As we study and discuss the text from this week evaluate how you can grow in each of these four areas.

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## Discover

1. What stands out to you in this passage of Scripture?
2. What does the text say about the character and nature of God?
3. What does the text say about the work of God?
4. What does the text say about our identity?
5. How does this change the way we live?

## Deepen

1. What challenged you about this week's message?
2. Is there a time when you used Philippians 4:13 out of context. Share a story with your group.
3. Do you find yourself confusing temporary happiness with contentment? What was the definition of contentment that Pastor Mike used?
4. Are you trying to find contentment in your circumstances or through Christ? What area of your life do you rely on your circumstances to find contentment instead of leaning into Jesus?

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## Action Step

Do you find contentment in your circumstances or through Christ? Evaluate every area of your life to see if your contentment is in Christ. Discuss what areas you struggle to find contentment through Christ with your group. Make plans to check in with each other throughout the week to encourage one another to not rely on your circumstances for contentment. Think of ways you can show that your contentment isn't dependent on your circumstances to your neighbors.

For next week read *Colossians 2:6-7*

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## Missions Focus: South Africa

This month we were planning to take our first international mission trip as a church to South Africa to partner with Julius and Brittany Tennial. The Tennals serve in Johannesburg, where they have been working to form a gospel-centered community. They've done this through neighborhood outreaches, working in partnership with their local church, and getting to know their neighbors and people in their community and inviting them to bible studies. They've recently had their first child and are planning to return to the US in October.

Pray for wisdom for them as they transition and seek next steps, for the ministry to continue and grow, and for the people of Johannesburg to come to know Jesus.

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## Memory Verse

"I know how to make do with little, and I know how to make do with a lot. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content--whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need. I am able to do all things through him who strengthens me."

-Philippians 4:12-13 (CSB)

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