

# C<sup>1</sup> onechurch

## bigIdea

We have more money. We have more stuff. We have bigger and brighter. We have the next best thing. Cutting technology. Bigger screens. Smaller computers. Bigger houses. And even though we have more, we're less happy with what we've got. We are discontent. What is the secret of happiness? How can we learn to be content?



BIG IDEA: Be Where You Are.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you had to compare your life last week to a weather report, what was the “weather” of your life like last week?
2. *Read Genesis 3:1-7.* In verse 6, describe Eve’s progression to eat the fruit. What did she see? What was she thinking?

Satan questioned Eve’s *contentment*. “How could she be happy when she was not allowed to eat from one of the fruit trees?” Satan shifted Eve’s focus from all that God had done and given to the one thing he had withheld.

3. Why do we focus on that next, best thing that we don’t have? What in our culture causes us to desire what we don’t have? What in ourselves causes us to desire what we don’t have?
4. In your own words, give a definition of *discontentment*.
5. To be content means to be satisfied. Read John 4:13-15. What did Jesus mean when He said, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst.”
6. What have you been trying to fill your inner thirst and hunger with? Could that be the secret of your discontentment?
7. If you gave a grade to your current financial condition, what grade would it get? How does that make you feel? How much of your current financial state happened because of keeping up with the Jones’? Trying to fill that inner thirst with stuff?
8. Read Philippians 4:10-13. Philippians 4:13 is one of the most often quoted verses in the Bible. Does reading 4:13 in the context of Paul finding contentment surprise you? Do you think this verse is misquoted out of context a lot?
9. What were Paul’s circumstances at this time (Philippians 1:13-14)?
10. How do you think Paul discovered the ‘secret of contentment’ while in prison? What is the difference between wants and needs (Philippians 4:19)?
11. How does Paul’s view of contentment compare with the modern world’s view of contentment?
12. What situations in your life are you feeling insecure about? How do Philippians 4:13 & 4:19 help you?

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*  
Philippians 4:11-13