

GROWTH GROUP STUDY

REFLECT

Paul felt times of financial need just like the rest of us. Near the end of his letter, Paul shared with the Philippian church about his confidence in God's provision and His using the church to meet Paul's needs. Share with your group about a time when you felt pressure financially and were tempted to doubt God's provision. *For example, when you first moved out of the house on your own, what were you afraid of?*

1. Many religions hold contentment as a core belief. *What is the difference between gospel-fueled contentment and the contentment of other world religions (e.g. Buddhism)?*

ENCOUNTER

Paul was not the only author in the Bible who praised God for His provision. David wrote several psalms that rejoiced in God's provision. Read Psalm 138 and focus on the action words David uses.

2. *What actions does God take in providing for David?*
3. *What actions does David take to proclaim his praise for God?*
4. Verse 6 says, "For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar." *How does this verse relate to Paul's statements about his situation in Philippians 4?*

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5. Compare Psalm 138:8 to Philippians 4:13. *How do these verses capture the same idea?*

TRANSFORM

6. Paul told the Philippians he had learned the secret of contentment. *What is it?*
7. *Based on the sermon, how would you explain Philippians 4:13 to someone looking for encouragement from the verse?*
8. *What are some ways you can rejoice in God's providing for your needs?*

FOR FURTHER STUDY

The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment by Jeremiah Burrows

“Christian contentment is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God’s wise and fatherly disposal in every condition.”

*Jeremiah Burroughs,
The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*

I believe that contentment depends very much upon taking right views of things. There is, to wit, a short view. To live by the day is the way to be cheerful. If you try to live by the month, you will bring home a month’s troubles to eat up a day’s meat. God has not constructed His people to live by the month—their souls, like their bodies—are fashioned to live by the day. His supplies, His promises—the very prayers He puts into our mouths, all deal with days—“Give us this day our daily bread.” “As your days so shall your strength be.” Live by the day, then, and you will be content.

Charles H. Spurgeon

FAMILY STUDY

Philippians 4:10-23

WEEK 17



What stands out to you from these verses?



What questions do you have?



What is an application for your life?

PRAISE & PRAYER

- God's attributes
- God's Word
- God's creation
- Our salvation
- Our missionaries
- Salvation of others
- Pastors and church ministries
- Government and leaders
- Friends and Family

Father, make us a generous people! May we be willing to share in the sufferings of our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we be generous with our time, money and other resources. Help us to glorify you with all that you have entrusted to us.