

Stripped Away: Eureka

Small Group Discussion Guide—10/21/2018

Opening questions (in an effort to get everyone talking):

- Has there been any season in life when you were truly content? If not, what's the closest you've been to contentment?
- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

***The Source of Contentment.* Read Philippians 4:10-13**

Paul says that the secret to contentment is found in Jesus (v. 13).

- Have you ever thought "If only I had _____, then I would be happy"? What was it you were seeking? If you were able to obtain it, what happened when you did?
- Think about your current circumstances – is it a time of plenty, or need, are you well fed or hungry? What is your current contentment level?
- The wording in Sunday's sermon was, "The source of contentment is the richness of the gospel." What makes it so rich? How do we discover that richness in an ongoing way?
- Whatever your current circumstances, what would it practically look like to find your contentment in this season, even this week, in Christ and the gospel?
- How does Paul's example demonstrate what this looks like?
- Pastor Josh said that this concept is easy to grasp cognitively, but hard to embrace practically—that it only gets completed in the furnace of life experience. What do you think about that statement? Has it been true for you?

***The Outcome of Contentment.* Read Philippians 4:14-20**

Finding contentment in Christ doesn't benefit you alone, but also leads to exponential joy for you and everyone you touch.

- Is it necessarily true, as we heard Sunday, that generosity will blossom in your life when you comprehend the richness of the gospel? Why or why not?
- What should be our primary motivation for being generous?
- According to this passage, what results spring from gospel-prompted generosity?
- Is there a specific opportunity in your life now, for you to be generous with your time, money, presence, or another gift, which you feel that you should act on?
- Have you ever been the recipient of another's generosity? If so, how do you feel when you remember them? What effect did this person's generosity have on you – physically, emotionally, and/or spiritually?
- Why does Paul say that our generosity is pleasing to God (v. 18)?
- What are the things that could potentially keep us from being generous? How does the promise in verse 19 help?
- Have you ever experienced this in your life? Not to brag on yourself, but as an opportunity to share God's faithfulness, and encourage others to trust in God's provision, can you think of a time when you were generous, and maybe it wasn't easy, but God then provided for you?

Series wrap-up: What is one major takeaway that you have from our time in Philippians?

Share prayer needs. **Pray** for them as a group, and also that this week we would all find our contentment in Christ alone, not in temporal things that can be stripped away at any time; that when things are stripped away we would be found to be faithful Christ followers, filled with joy, peace, and contentment in all circumstances.