

Contentment

Philippians 4: 10-13

November 11, 2012

Message Notes



1. Contentment is learned through experience.

Philippians 4:11

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

2. I can be content in any circumstance, because I rely on His strength, not my own. Philippians 4:12-13

- I'm not self-sufficient any more, I'm sufficient in Jesus.

3. God desires to use our contentment for His purposes and His Glory.

- a. Contentment will help us to look and act differently from the culture around us. (Philippians 2:13; Matthew 5:13-16)
- b. The more time and money we spend trying to satisfy our discontentment with God's provision for us, the less of those resources we will have to be generous. (Mark 4:18-19)

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Growth Group Questions



1. Share an experience that taught you something about contentment.

2. What are some of the main sources of discontentment in our culture? How about in your own life? Be specific! In Sunday's message, we talked about masking our discontentment with "rationalization." What are some of your favorite ways to rationalize your discontentment?

3. Read our teaching passage, Philippians 4:10-13 and also read Philippians 4:19.
 - a. When it comes to living a contented life, why does it seem that relying on God (v. 13) rather than ourselves is easier said than done? What hinders us from moving from "self-sufficiency" to sufficiency in Jesus?

 - b. In 4:19, God promises to meet all our *needs*. How can we better discern "needs" from "wants" in our everyday lives?

4. Read Mark 4:18-19. Jesus tells us the consequences of pursuing our own discontentment. What are some practical ways that contentment can help us to be more fruitful for God's kingdom?

5. When it comes to contentment with God's provision for you, where do you need to more completely rely on Him, so that you can "outflow" more effectively?