

## Sermon Discussion

### 15 November 2020

Read Philippians 4:10-13 together.

#### **Dig Deeper**

Paul did not want the Philippians to misunderstand him. He was not rejoicing primarily because their gift had met his need, but because their gift expressed their love and concern for him. Paul had learned to be content and to rejoice regardless of his physical circumstances. Such contentment is not a natural gift.

The Greek verb *emathōn*, translated “learned,” implies that Paul’s whole experience, especially as a Christian, up to the present has been a sort of schooling from which he has not failed to master its lessons.

Every Christian needs to learn to be content. When Paul urged his readers to rejoice in the Lord always (v. 4), he was preaching what he practiced (v. 5-8). The apostle’s contentment and joy even in prison indicate his spiritual maturity, and it challenges us all.

1. How do you define Christian contentment? From where does it derive?
2. What are the three truths about contentment according to the sermon? Do you agree? Disagree? Why?
3. What is the actual meaning of Philippians 4:13? How does this apply to your life?
4. Has a lack of contentment made you less flexible to serve God and be on mission for Him? Explain.

#### **Application & Prayer**

- Think about the times in your life that you would describe as good. Now think about the times in your life that you would describe as hard. Which seasons of your life was it more difficult to find contentment in Christ? Spend time praying through those reasons and asking for God’s perspective.
- Consider the areas of your life that you know you are not content in. Make a list and ask someone to check in on your progress over the next month to evaluate how you are doing.