

Philippians: Finding Joy Right Where You Are!

Key Scriptures

Phil. 4:14-19

Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress.

¹⁵ Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only.

¹⁶ For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.

¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

¹⁸ Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Key Point:

Every follower of Christ is called to partner with God in giving toward the ministry of the gospel, knowing that God will supply all their needs according to His riches in Christ.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What is one of the greatest gifts you have ever received from another person?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- In what sense does giving away money profit the giver?
- Why do you think Paul is rejoicing so much from the gift that the Philippian church gave him?
- In v. 17 what does Paul mean when he mentions “fruit” and their “account?”
- What is Paul’s motivation for each of us to give?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Since our passage today is one of thanksgiving, take turns having one person sit silently while the others share something they are thankful to have received from that person during your small group times.

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Ask God to help you loosen the grip you have on the resources He has given you, and be sensitive as to how to be generous with them towards those in need.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- Is there a need you know of that you feel you should give toward?