

Philippians: Finding Joy Right Where You Are!

Key Scriptures Phil. 4:11-18 and

Heb 13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

1 Tim. 6:5-10 [False teachers produce] men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. ⁶ Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸ And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

2 Cor 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

Key Point:

Greed and contentment cannot coexist in the life of a Christian. Greed must go if we are to be content.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What do you enjoy buying?

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

- What do each of the Key Scriptures for this week teach us about why we should be content?
- The theme of the book of Philippians is Joy. Phil 4:14-18 seems to be a model of producing joy and peace. Why do you think this is so?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Do you think greed delivers on its promise to make us happy? Why or why not?
- Can you share of a time or an area of life where greed crept into your heart and your thought processes?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Ask God to help you in the three areas of this week's message:

1. put others needs ahead of our wants
2. Practice generosity
3. Remember that money is a spiritual tool

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?