

Philippians: Finding Joy Right Where You Are!

Key Scriptures

Phil. 4:19, John 12:24

2 Cor. 9:6-11 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Key Point:

The law of the harvest teaches us a contrarian understanding of giving and receiving. Those who give generously are those who are blessed the most.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking. Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Are you a green thumb? (meaning: do plants thrive under your care, or do you seem to kill them no matter how hard you try?)

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

- Take some time and read 2 Cor 9:6-11 and John 12:24. What observations can you make about the law of sowing and reaping?
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Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- How can the promise of Phil 4:19 encourage us to give to the needs of others?
Phil. 4:19 And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
- Why is giving such an integral part of activating the "faith component" in our lives?
- Chip Ingram summarized this passage by saying "have a need? Plant a seed!" What areas do you feel you have a need? What would planting a seed look like in this area?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray that God would help you to become a cheerful giver, and that He would provide for you in your steps of faith.

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

- Is there a specific step of faith or obedience God has directed you to take?