

Philippians 4:8-22

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

10 I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. 11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

14 Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble.

15 And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. 16 Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again.

17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. 18 I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having

received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. 19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

20 To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. 22 All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Community Group Study 27 Dec 2009

Introduction

Paul comes to the conclusion of his letter from prison, and he reminds them to think and meditate on holy, pure, honorable things. The epitome of this perfection is Christ, and we should ensure that our lives are being lived in devotion to Him, by drawing near daily through the reading of scripture, prayer, and worship. Paul then speaks about financial giving and generosity, claiming that he has no personal demands because he has learned the secret of being content in every situation. He urges them to give knowing that this will result in treasures being laid up in heaven for their sake.

Discussion

>>What does Paul urge the Philippians to think about?

>>What do you think Paul's "secret" is in verse 12?

>>What does a life of contentment look like?

Explanation

>>Why is Paul confident that God will supply all their needs?

>>What fruit does Paul talk about in verse 17?

Application

>>What practically can you do to change your thought life?

>>How can we be more content with what we have?

>>In what ways could you practically partner others in the gospel?