

Learning Contentment

Philippians 4:10-13

Grace Fellowship Church, Pastor Brian Fannin, Sep. 13, 2020

Philippians 4:10-13 (HCSB) “I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that once again you renewed your care for me. You were, in fact, concerned about me but lacked the opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I don’t say this out of need, for **I have learned** to be content in whatever circumstances I am. ¹² I know both how to have a little, and I know how to have a lot. **In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content**—whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need. ¹³ I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me.”

How can you begin learning how to be content?

Lesson 1: It starts with how you see yourself.

There are two options as to how you see yourself: belonging to yourself or belonging to Christ.

Philippians 1:1 “Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus...”

When you trust Christ and you see the Christian life for what it is, it is liberation from a life that is all about you.

Philippians 3:12 “...but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own.”

Secret 1: A secure identity is found in belonging to Christ.

Lesson 2: When you belong to Christ, you must pursue living for Christ in each and every circumstance.

When you belong to Christ, the world must not frame your life and all that you value because you possess the very presence of Christ in your life.

Philippians 1:27 “...I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.”

The irony of contentment is that you find it by abandoning your pursuit of ease and entering into a life of giving yourself away.

Secret 2: Connecting in a Community Group and serving will give your life more meaning now and more reward later.

Lesson 3: Think, think, think...Contentment starts between your ears.

Philippians 4:8 “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.”

In Christ, all circumstances can be faced with absolute assurance that you will have the strength to face them because you will never be alone.

Secret 3: You can learn contentment because He is sufficient for you and faithful to you in whatever you face.