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Sunday, May 6, 2012  
David H. McKinley, Pastor

## **Deception: Everyone is a Victim of Their Circumstances**

Philippians 4:4-13

\_\_\_\_\_ are happenings in life. The events and experiences that surround us, seize us and shape us.

*Notes:*

“Most of our emotional struggles, relational difficulties and spiritual setbacks are caused by lies that we tell ourselves and lies we believe... The longer a lie is repeated and perpetuated in our minds, the more convinced we are of its truth... Thoughts produce after their own kind: lies produce death, truth produces life.”

—Dr. Chris Thurman, *The Lies We Believe*

*Notes:*

## John 10:10

**Jesus is the** \_\_\_\_\_

#vitality

## John 8:32

“Our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.”

—Barbara Geraci

*Notes:*

## Philippians 4:11-13

“Our circumstances do not make us who we are or determine our life direction. They are simply background from which faith is activated and grace is applied.”

*Notes:*

“In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” —Philippians 4:12b-13 ESV

**Circumstances do not control me  
because my \_\_\_\_\_ is in Christ.**

*Notes:*

Reasonableness: "The word signifies a humble, patient steadfastness, which is able to submit to injustice, disgrace and maltreatment without hatred and malice, trusting God in spite of all of it." —Fritz Reinecker

*Notes:*

## **Nehemiah 8:10**

**Circumstances do not control me  
because my \_\_\_\_\_ is through  
\_\_\_\_\_.**

*Notes:*

When we pray, we remember:

- The \_\_\_\_\_ of God
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of God
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of God

## Philippians 4:7

\_\_\_\_\_ is the Secret to  
\_\_\_\_\_ in Life #vitality

## Proverbs 4:23

**Circumstances do not control me  
because my \_\_\_\_\_ is occupied  
with \_\_\_\_\_.**

“If only...”

## Philippians 4:8-9

**Circumstances do not control me  
because I choose the pursuit of**

\_\_\_\_\_.

Content: “The word indicates independence of external circumstances and often means the state of one who supports himself without the aid of others. It indicates an inward self-sufficiency as opposed to a lack or desire for outward things.” —Vincent

*I can't* vs. \_\_\_\_\_

*Notes:*

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than my past, my education, my bankroll, my successes

or failures, fame or pain, what other people think of me, or say about me, my circumstances, or my position. The attitude I choose keeps me going or cripples my progress. It alone fuels my fire or assaults my hope. When my attitudes are right, there's no barrier too high, no valley too deep, no dream too extreme, no challenge too great for me. Yet we must admit that we spend more of our time concentrating and fretting over the things that can't be changed than we do giving attention to the one that we can change, our choice of attitude. It will make or break a company... a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it." —Charles Swindoll



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Message preached from the pulpit of



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a way of life!

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