

The Secret of Contentment : Imitate Christ

November 1, 2020

Philippians 4:11-12

I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

Paul's Example of Contentment

Acts 16

WHAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST:

Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

WHAT CHRIST DID FOR US:

Philippians 2:5-8

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

Humble yourself before the Lord and He will lift you Up! – James 4:10

WHAT WE ALL WILL DO:

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS:

SHARE: How would you define contentment? When do you think you are most content?

READ: Philippians 2:1. What do these verses say we have in Christ? What Encouragement and Comfort do you have in Christ?

READ: Philippians 2:2. What is Paul asking when he says, "Make my joy complete?" What three things does he want them to be?

READ: Philippians 2:3-4. What are these verses asking us to do? What makes this so difficult?

READ: Philippians 2:5. According to this verse, Where should a Christlike mindset bless us?

READ: Philippians 2:6-8. What did Christ do for us? What do you learn about Jesus nature from these verses? What part of this means the most to you?

READ: Philippians 2:9-11. What two things will every person be required to do according to these verses? How can imitating Christ bring us contentment?

SHARE: Have you truly acknowledged Jesus as Lord in your life?

PRAY: