Joy for the Journey - A Study of Philippians

“The Secret of Contentment”  David Owens

Philippians 4:10-13  4.8.18

Introduction:
A. All the world lives in two tents - ___________ and ___________.
B. Definition of “content”: Having the _______ limited to what one ______.
C. Paul discovered that contentment comes from a trust in our ___________ realities rather than a focus on our ___________ circumstances.

I. Contentment Comes from Putting Our Trust in the Unfailing _________ of God
A. Paul discovered that contentment is something that has to be _________.
B. Most of us keep looking for contentment in the _______ _________.
C. Paul learned to be content regardless of _______ he was with, what _______ he held, or what ____________ he had.
D. Paul learned that he could do all things through ______ who gave him _________.
E. The devil wants us to believe two lies:
   1. That _________ make a person happy.
   2. That all we need is found _________ _____.

II. Contentment Comes from Putting Our Trust in the Unchanging _________ of God
A. The unchanging promise of God is that He will meet all our _________.
B. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said that God knows what we ________ (Mt. 6:28-33).
C. How God will meet our needs is ___________.
D. Paul’s attitude could be summed up in this quote: “I am always content with what happens; for I know what God chooses is _________ than what I choose.”
E. The secret to contentment is trusting that God will give what I ________, and being satisfied with what He ________ (1 Tim. 6:6-8; Heb. 13:5-6).
F. Suggestions for becoming a more content person:
   1. Refuse to _________ yourself with others.
   2. Love _________ the way they are and not as you would like them to be.
   3. Accept _________ as they are and not like we would like for them to be.

Conclusion:
A. One final things in this passage that leads to contentment is knowing that we are bringing _________ to _________ (Phil. 4:18).
B. Truths about giving:
   1. Giving affects the ____________ (Phil. 4:16-17).
   2. Giving affects the ____________ (Mt. 6:19-24; 1 Tim. 6:19).
   3. Giving affects the ____________ (Phil. 4:18)