

**Pastor Shawn** 

# Content Mind - Philippians 4:10-14

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"How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again. I know you have always been concerned for me, but you didn't have the chance to help me. Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength. Even so, you have done well to share with me in my present difficulty."

Philippians 4:10-14

#### Contentment isn't natural. Our sinful nature is always discontent.

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives."

Galatians 5:24-25

# **Contentment is learned** by focusing on & enjoying God's goodness

# Contentment isn't dependent on our circumstances

"as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything."

2 Corinthians 6:4-10

## Contentment is fostered by rejoicing & giving thanks

"Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord...Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!... Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done."

Philippians 3:1, 4:4-6

#### Contentment is fostered by belonging in Christian Community

"I love you and long to see you, dear friends, for you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work...How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again." Philippians 4:1,10

### Contentment is fostered by placing our hopes in the Kingdom to come

"Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later... we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering..."

Romans 8:18-25

#### Contentment is rooted in Christ being enough for us

"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

Philippians 1:21

# Our Contentment is quickly destroyed by comparing with others

"I am not being unfair to you... Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'" (Story of the Workers in the Vinyard) Matthew 20:1-15

A Holy Dis-contentment - grieve with Holy Spirit as we wait for the Kingdom of God. Dis-contentment with Death, Sickness, Evil, Injustice, Abuse, Poverty, Sin, Etc. Dissatisfaction with what this world has to offer for pleasure, success, hope, etc.

"If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. This fallen world is fundamentally dissatisfying. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing." C.S. Lewis

Holy Dis-contentment will increase our contentment in Christ & His Kingdom