

The Secret to Securing Happiness & Investing for a Better Future

Philippians 4:10-23

Read Philippians 4:10-23

Reflecting on the passage and the sermon from Sunday, share (one or more)...

- What stands out to you?
- What questions do you have?
- What do you feel personally challenged by?

In this final section, Paul is expressing his appreciation and joy over the faithful, practical support of the Philippians to him over many years, and just recently with the gift that came with Epaphroditus (see verses 10 and 18). The key is noting why he *doesn't* and *does* rejoice over their gift...

Verses 10-13

What does Paul say is NOT the reason he rejoices over their gift? Why say this?

What's the secret to living well in any and every situation?

Do you fall into the trap of thinking 'the grass is always greener on the other side'? Why do we fall into this thinking if we know it's not true?

What's the foundation for contentment in all circumstances? What does this (or could it!) look like for you? How's it different from the Stoic idea of 'self-sufficiency'?

Verses 14-20

Paul takes pains to say he doesn't rejoice because he really needed the gift. Why then does he rejoice?

How do the two metaphors in 17 and 18 (one from the world of business, one from the realm of temple sacrifices) help us understand the blessing that comes from generous, sacrificial giving to others and the cause of the gospel?

What are they saying, and what are they NOT saying?

When it comes to living out your faith in Christ, do you think you tend to make too *much* of money, or too *little* of money? What does it mean for you to invest in God's kingdom?

Why is verse 19 so important as we seek to find our contentment in Christ?

What steps can you take this week to: a) find greater content in Christ, b) express that contentment in sacrificial generosity to others?