

Together for the Gospel
9. Gospel Contentment (Phil. 4:10-4:23)

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Introduction

3 Lessons on Contentment:

1. Paul - the secret of contentment (v10-13)

2. Philippians - an example of contentment (v14-18)

3. God - the source of contentment (v19-20)

Conclusion

-bookended by grace (v21-23)

Philippians 4:10-4:23(NIV)

10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. **11** I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. **12** 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. **13** I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. **15** Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; **16** for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. **17** Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. **18** I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. **19** And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. **20** To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

21 Greet all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings. **22** All God's people here send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar's household.

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Amen.

Ambassador Church Promises

As Christians, we believe that we were dead in our sins and deserving of God's wrath; but because of his great love and mercy God has given us new life in Christ. In Christ we are forgiven, accepted, and adopted by God. All this is through God's incomparable grace and is only received by faith. In view of God's mercy to us we make these promises in dependence on God and the work of his Spirit in us.

We promise to grow in the knowledge of God:

- We will give thanks and praise God for his goodness to us
- We will seek to repent of our sin and rejoice in our forgiveness
- We will celebrate our new life in Christ and walk humbly with God
- We will seek the guidance and leading of the Spirit of God in everything we do
- We will live a life that honours God in obedience to his Word
- We will express our dependence on God in prayer
- We will give God glory for all his work in us and in the world

We promise to grow together as a community of God's people:

- We will endeavour to meet together regularly
- We will make every effort to keep the unity of the church as those whom Christ has reconciled
- We will forgive each other as Christ forgave us
- We will embrace our responsibility to love, care, and pray for each other as God's family
- We will use our gifts to encourage and build each other up
- We will contribute to the church's financial support
- We will respect and honour the leadership of the church

We promise to go into the world with the good news about Jesus:

- We will bear witness to the good news of the gospel through our words and actions
- We will welcome new people into the life of the church
- We will seek to do good to all people to show the love of God
- We will accept suffering for the sake of the gospel
- We will pray for the spread of the gospel throughout Hong Kong and across the world
- We will, if we move from this place, as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of these promises and the principles of God's Word