

WHITE HOT

LIFEgroups

Feb. 19, 2012

Equilibrium

Philippians 4:10-19

Context

Joy is an unmistakable theme throughout Paul's letter to the Philippians. This is remarkable because it's written by a man in a prison waiting to find out if he'd live or die. Each sermon in this series unpacks how it's possible for joy to be so evident in Paul's life.

In this passage Paul connects his joy to how he deals with living with "plenty" and living in "want." Since this is the last week in Philippians, you're encouraged to read the entire book before answering the following questions. You'll definitely want to read chapter three to see how it forms Paul's attitude in this week's study.

Questions for Study

1. Would you say that you grew up in a lower income, middle income, or upper income home? Are there any ways this influenced your view of money and what money can buy?
2. What would you say is your biggest struggle with money?
3. Write out your definition of contentment and generosity. How does contentment influence our level of generosity?

Digging into passage...

4. Paul refers to the Philippians care for him in verse 10 and verses 14-16. Go back to chapter two and read verses 19-30. What do all of these verses show us that the Philippians did for Paul?
5. Paul refers to his "troubles" in verse 14. Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 and pick which of his troubles would be your least favorite.
6. What statement does Paul make in these verses that sadly show that the Philippians were unique in their support for Paul? Any thoughts about this?
7. Paul gives a window into his heart in verses 11-13. Write down what you learn about Paul from these verses. What's so remarkable about this in light of the "troubles" Paul has experienced?
8. Even though Paul is in prison, he's still thinking about other people. In verse 17 Paul makes that statement that he's "looking for what may be credited to your (the Philippians') account." What do you think this means?
9. How does the promise in verse 19 encourage you to be generous?