

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of November 10-16, 2024

## “CONTENTMENT, A RARE JEWEL”

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### GETTING STARTED

*To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.*

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Can anyone tell of a time when you found the grace to experience contentment when you were tempted not to be content?

### GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read Philippians 4:10-23.**

1. How does the world define “contentment”? Can you give examples? Why does Paul say that biblical contentment is learned? What does this mean practically?
2. When it comes to contentment, which is more difficult – to be content in prosperity, or to be content in adversity? Why?
3. Verse 13 is often pulled out of context as a sort of superman verse, telling Christians we can do anything. Looking at it in context, what can we learn about what Paul is really saying here?
4. How does Paul describe his relationship with the Philippians? How is his relationship with them unique among the churches he planted? What is the difference between volunteering or donating and entering into partnership with someone?
5. What is the relationship between generosity and trust in God? How does it become an act of worship instead of an obligation? Why does Paul call their gift a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, and pleasing to God? Was it a gift to Paul or to God? How might the different perspectives affect someone’s giving?

6. Why is it significant for the Philippians to know that God will supply their needs? How can Philippians 4:19 be misapplied?
7. What were some of your highlights in the study of Philippians?

### NEXT STEPS

*Contentment has learned the lesson that Jesus is enough.*

- I will not let my circumstances, whether in poverty or affluence, affect my contentment.
- I will cultivate gratitude.
- I will learn not to compare.
- I will find my sufficiency in Jesus alone.

*Don’t forget to:*

- Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.

### CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for a heart of contentment, that you may find joy and sufficiency in Christ alone.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who’s going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

### BIBLE READING GUIDE

November 11	Philippians 4:10-23
November 12	Ecclesiastes 5:18-20
November 13	1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
November 14	Psalms 105:1-5
November 15	Proverbs 14:30
November 16	Psalms 33:1-22
November 17	Jeremiah 1:4-10