

1 Timothy 6:6-10

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October 20, 2019

As you rely on Jesus, invest the resources of your finances and your influence for eternal gain

1. Contentment is not based on your resources, but on your reliance

Philippians 4:10-13

Letter to the Philippians.

Contentment is a challenge not only when things are <u>rough</u> and the valley is deep, but also when things are going <u>well</u> and you might be tempted to feel self-sufficient because you think you don't need God

[Paul's] joy in the Lord was not heightened by prosperity or diminished by poverty. His concern for the welfare of others was not distracted by living in plenty or in want. His contentment in prosperity did not lead him to self-indulgence or self-aggrandizement: having material things did not become his reason for joy; acquiring material things did not make him greedy; protecting material things did not make him anxious.

G. Walter Hansen, Pillar New Testament Commentary – The

2. God is pleased when you give **financially** to extend the Gospel

Philippians 4:14-20

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

3. Being an intentional <u>influencer</u> is something you can do

Philippians 4:21-23

God isn't asking you to reach the <u>whole</u> world, but He has given you a role as His ambassador for you to begin reaching <u>your</u> world

# Trinity Core Value:

Your calling is to influence your world with Jesus

### Now What?

As you rely on Jesus, invest the resources of your finances and your influence for eternal gain



Philippians 4:10-23

#### Share It

When do you feel contentment in life? Why?

#### Learn from the Bible

Read Philippians 4:10-23. Much of this passage is Paul's response to financial gifts sent to support his ministry. What are the ways that Paul describes their actions? (Ex. "Concern")

What was Paul's response to their generosity?

How did Paul view his circumstances when in need? What was his secret?

What promise was given to them about their needs? (19) How would you explain this lifestyle to a friend?

What we do learn about giving to advance the gospel? How did their investment have dual benefits? What is God's response to this kind of giving?

## Discuss Together

How could Paul's "secret" (12-13) influence how we view our circumstances? How should we see life's circumstances differently than the world?

What was Paul's secret of contentment? Why do we seem to have so much discontent in our lives? What keeps us from living like Paul? Why might those outside of America be surprised at our discontent?

What are ways that we can invest to extend the Gospel? How are these connected with God's work and design in our lives? How do you decide what, who, etc. to invest?

# **Pray Together**

- For our International Friendship Connection team as they reach out
- For our Elders as they meet to pray and lead
- For our Global Workers around the world
- For Micah House event

## Memory Verse for this Week

Philippians 4:19