

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Content, But Not Complacent

Philippians 4:10-13

ICEBREAKER: What was your longest road trip/drive? Where was your destination?

OVERVIEW: This Sunday we looked at Philippians 4:10–13, where Paul says he “learned to be content” in every circumstance he faced — whether he had plenty or had nothing. Biblical contentment isn’t the same thing as complacency. Contentment says, “Christ is enough.” Complacency says, “I don’t need to grow.” In this discussion, we’ll dig into ways to be content without becoming complacent, and what that looks like practically in our everyday lives.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. If you’re honest with yourself, what is your personal definition of “contentment”? What from this week’s message has changed or challenged that definition?
3. What is the danger of complacency and what might it look like in a Christian?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:14–18 and answer the following questions.
 - a) What does this passage say about how God has arranged the body?
 - b) How does comparing yourself to someone else rob you of contentment?
 - c) What’s one area of your life where you’re most tempted to compare yourself to others?

d) How does knowing God intentionally designed your specific role in the body change how you view someone else’s?

5. Read Philippians 4:10-13. What stood out to you most from Paul’s statement in this passage?
6. Contentment is described as a discipline, not just a feeling. What are some practical ways that you can develop and practice contentment?
7. What is the difference between contentment and complacency when it comes to trusting God? What is one thing you’re currently trying to control that isn’t actually yours to control?
8. How can you tell when a good gift has quietly become more important to you than God, and how can we avoid putting something in the place of God?
9. Do you tend to relate to God more like you’re trying to earn His approval or like you already have it? How does that show up practically in your life?
10. Of the five ways to be content mentioned in the sermon, which is hardest for you right now? What is one specific step you can take this week?

The Last Word: “Contentment is one of the flowers of heaven.” — Charles Spurgeon

