

Philippians Study: Having a Real Relationship with Jesus

Part Four: A New Peace, Contentment, and Life of Giving

Lesson 13: Philippians 4:14–23

Read the passage carefully several times

1. In verses 14–20, what is Paul’s primary message to the Philippians? Why do you think he feels it is important to emphasize this to them at this moment?
2. What “trouble” was Paul in (14)? What did it mean to “share in” it, and why was it kind to do so? How can we show this same kindness, especially to those serving the Lord?
3. In verses 15–16, how does Paul describe the Philippians’ history with him? Why was their relationship unique compared to the other churches? In your own experience, why is learning to give and to help so vital?
4. What was Paul’s motive in saying these things, and what does he mean here (verse 17)? How did he view their gifts for him (18)? Why is appreciating what others have given or done so important?
5. In verse 19 Paul promises that God will meet all their needs. Based on his earlier words (verses 11–13), what “needs” do you think he means? How does trusting God’s provision change how you approach your own financial or emotional anxiety?
6. Paul concludes by praising God (20) and with final greetings (21–23). What is the tone here? In light of this entire letter, why is it significant that Paul ends it this way?