

Philippians Study: Having a Real Relationship with Jesus
Part Four: A New Peace, Contentment, and Life of Giving

Lesson 12: Philippians 4:10–13

Read the passage carefully several times

1. In verses 10, 14 and 18, what specific actions did the Philippians take to show their concern for Paul? Why do you think he emphasizes their partnership in his ministry? What does this say about the role of community and practical support for each believer?
2. Paul says “I have learned.” What does “learned” imply about how he cultivated this perspective? How is being content different from an emotion or personality trait? Today, what makes it hard to be content? How do Paul’s words here help us?
3. Paul lists several extremes in verse 12. Why do you think he talks about these contrasting experiences? He also mentions a “secret”; in your own words, how would you define this “secret”? In your own life, if you truly lived by this “secret,” how would it change the way you react to success or hardship?
4. In verse 13, the phrase “I can do all things through him” is a famous promise. Looking at the context of the previous verses, what “things” does Paul seem to mean? What does the word “through” tell us about Paul’s effort and Christ’s power? How can this promise change the way you approach the tasks and challenges you’re facing right now?