

“God’s Help for Financial Stress”
(Philippians 4:10-19)

The book of Philippians is a “thank you letter” for a monetary gift that Paul received from the church. The specific words of thanks occur in a text that gives us some insight into a godly view of finances. Such a view requires an . . .

Attitude of Contentment (10-13)

- Must be **Learned** (11-12)

- Takes **Christ’s Strength** (13)

Awareness of Needs (14-17)

- Blessing to the **Missionary** (14-16)

- Blessing to the **Church** (17)

Approval by God (18-19)

- **God’s Receiving** of Our Giving (18)

- **God’s Response** to Our Giving (19)

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Small Group/Family Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Philippians is a “thank you” letter. Share about a note of thanks (or a verbal expression) you recently received or sent.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some of the keys to having a true godly contentment in our lives, such as Paul speaks of in Phil 4:11-12.

2. What does Phil 4:13 mean and what does it NOT mean?

3. How does **God** view our financial giving to His work? (Consider 4:17-18) How are people’s views about giving (both believers and unbelievers) often different than the biblical view.

4. Discuss whether we can we really count on the promise of Phil 4:19? Share an experience in which God met a material need in your life.

5. Go around the circle and each person name one of the missionaries that Cornerstone supports, and a prayer need they may have.

Small Group Prayer

Each person include a prayer for one of our missionaries, and for us to know and help provide for their needs.

Digging Deeper

1. A major theme on Philippians is “joy.” Make a list of all the things in which Paul finds joy according to Phil 1:3-5; 1:16-18; 2:2; 2:17; 3:3; 4:1; and 4:10. Evaluate whether you are displaying joy for these things.

2. Paul uses language of O.T. sacrifice in Phil.4:18 to describe how monetary giving can be sweet smelling and well-pleasing to God. Review some verses about this concept – Gen 8:20-21; Ex 29:18; Lev 1:9, 13, 17; 2:12; Ezek 20:41; Rom 12:1-2; Eph 5:1-2; Heb 13:15-16 and 1 Pet 2:5.

3. Because the Philippians gave sacrificially to God’s work, they have the promise of Phil 4:19. Note this biblical principle throughout Scripture starting with Prov 3:9-10; 11:24-25; 19:17; Matt 5:7; 6:33; Lk 6:38 and 2 Cor 9:6, 10. Prayerfully evaluate your giving to the Lord’s work.