

**Love Deeply, Give Generously, Trust God (part 1)**  
**(Phil 4.10-20; 06-07-20am)**

**Central thought:** Secret to contentment in gospel endeavors is trusting Christ in all things.

**Finding joy in missionary partnerships (10-14)**

A. Gospel partnerships are a source of joy and contentment (10-12)     *rejoiced/learned to be content*

1. Gospel advance is a cooperative effort (10)     *revived your concern*

a. The labor brings joy to both partners

b. Support shows *concern* for the partner (on the field)     *concern (2x)*

See three reasons in vs11-13, appears that Paul would have been okay without the gift

1) Had *learned to be content no matter his situation* (11)

2) Had *learned to adapt to his present situation* (12)

3) Had *learned to depend on Jesus* (13)

2. Contentment is a learned discipline (11-12)     *learned be content; learned the secret*

a. What do we need to *learn*? (11-12)

1) Contentment is not based on circumstance (11) (cf. 1.12-14)

2) Contentment is not based on our perspective of how much is enough (12) (cf. 13 & 19)

3) For believer, contentment is not found in our stuff (12) (cf. Luke 12.15)

b. What is the *secret* Paul learned about being content (12)     be satisfied in Jesus (cf. 13)

3. Contentment shouldn't be driven by circumstance or situation (12)

*brought low/about    plenty/hunger    abundance/need*

Paul's focus is on eternity. For the believer, an eternal focus:

(1) keeps your mind on spiritual things – your sanctification; your sacrificial service, etc

(2) disciplines your heart to love God above all earthly things; and to love your neighbor as yourself

(3) prevents us from weighing happiness by amount of possessions, our preferences or present situation

4. Contentment testifies that in Jesus, we have all we need

B. The strength of Christ is experienced in faithful partnerships (13-14)

1. Christ works through faithful partners to give strength to missionaries (13)     *do all things*

2. Christ works through the church to advance the gospel (14)     *kind of you to share my troubles*

V14) why was Paul grateful to Philippians for *sharing his troubles*?

1) they partnered with him in gospel ministry – gift was a sign of genuine *sharing/fellowship* (cf. 1.3-5)

2) they partnered with him in trying times – they weren't giving up on Paul because he was in jail

3) their motivation was not based on Paul's success; they were motivated by love & the gospel (cf. 1.18)