

NL STUDY GUIDE

TO LIVE IS CHRIST

Part 6: All Things

October 29/30, 2016

PHILIPPIANS 4:10-13 (NIV)

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

SCRIPTURE

PHILIPPIANS 4:10-13 (NIV)

Watch this week's message online: nlchurch.com/watch.

OBSERVATION

As Paul brings his letter to a close, it's important to remember that he's writing this while under house arrest in Rome. Imprisoned for his faith, he is desperately trying to share every ounce of encouragement and faith he possibly can. What we see in this final passage is the true secret to Paul's indomitable faith. To put it frankly, through Christ, he can do anything. Notice he is not the source of his strength or power, but Jesus is.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The primary reason that Philippians was written was as a thank-you note and friendship letter. What we see in these final verses is Paul saying thanks for the gift, but in truth he has everything he needs.

- 1 Which passages in the letter of Philippians stand out to you? Which carry the most meaning?
- 2 What would you say are the major themes of Philippians?
- 3 Paul is sharing his central reality of faith, that Christ empowers him. What is a key truth of your faith? Who are you sharing it with?

APPLICATION

When you apply something, you put it into practice. It's one thing to read the Bible, it's another thing to live it out. A practical application of what you just observed from today's study can help you discover just how much impact the Bible can have on every situation you may face!

In this section, discuss together ways you can apply what you've learned from the teaching and the Bible study. Then, think about some practical ways you can live out what you've learned.

- 1 Why is it important for us to continue to study Paul's letter to the Philippians?
- 2 What can we learn from these closing verses about contentment and joy?
- 3 How can we share the joy and peace that Christ brings to our lives? What is the role of contentment and humility in Christian witness?

PRAYER

Use the space below to write out your prayer in response to today's message.

My take away today: _____

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