

## Questions for the Week



### **Connect** (pick 1 question to ask the group)

1. What has the Lord done in your life this week that we can celebrate together?
2. Is there a burden that you can share with the group so we can pray for it together?

### **Study** (Read Philippians 4:10-13)

1. Thinking about Paul's life, what would he have gone through that he would have experienced need and plenty? (See Acts 9:23, 16:22-24, 27:41-44, etc)
2. What do you think the "secret to being content" is?
3. Being in a season of "need" can mean a lot of different things. Financial needs, loneliness, purposelessness, sickness, etc - these things and more can all put us in that season. Have you found yourself experiencing need? What was/is that season like? How can you be content within it?
4. How can a season of plenty threaten our contentment just like a season of need?
5. How do Paul's words in verses 12 about contentment shape your understanding of verse 13 about being able to do all things in Christ?

### **Reflect**

1. Based on this passage, is there anything you personally need to confess, consider, or surrender to God?
2. Is there any relationship or situation in your life that this story applies to?

### **\*Leader Notes\***

The Apostle Paul wrote the book of Philippians while he was in prison. We often take Philippians 4:13 as a affirmation that we can accomplish our dreams through Christ. It is true that - if we are surrendering our dreams to Christ and aligning them with kingdom values - Jesus might empower us to achieve our goals, but this verse is about what we can endure, not what we can accomplish. Contentment is found in knowing that our purpose, value, and provision come in Jesus and not in our circumstances. If we are content we will learn, over time, to look for growth in difficult seasons rather than looking for escape. As a counterpoint, if we are content we learn to find comfort in Christ rather than the things that are plentiful in our seasons of plenty. Avoiding seasons of difficulty AND chasing ease or material things both rob us of contentment.