

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- The Book of Philippians is full of great quotable verses. What are some of your favorite passages from Philippians or other parts of the Bible?
- Why do those verses mean so much to you?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard?
- **Read** Philippians 4:10-13. In his message, Pastor Pat reminded us of **three keys to contentment**.

1. Contentment is *learned* over time (Philippians 4:11 - “I have learned...”)

- a. Look back over some of the highs and lows of your life. How has God tried to teach you contentment through the years?
- b. Wisdom is knowledge put into practice. Is it more natural for you personally to fill your mind with knowledge, or to fill your life with practice? Why do you think that’s true of you?

2. Contentment is *circumstantially* forged (Philippians 4:12 - “In any and every circumstance...”)

- a. In the Bible (1 Timothy 6:6; Hebrews 13:6), we’re told to be content with our financial situation. Are you? Or do you find yourself saying, “If I could only have more _____, I would be content.”
- b. How you respond to a friend who asked, “If God is so loving, why does He let difficult circumstances into my life?” Does this passage give any clues as to what one answer might be?

3. Contentment is a *secret* known only to those in Christ (Philippians 4:13 - “All things *in* Him...”)

- a. The secret of contentment is not Christ AND me, it’s Christ IN me. What’s the difference?
 - a. What’s easier for you - to live Christ AND you, or Christ IN you? Why?
- b. How might God use your life of contentment to evangelize someone watching you?
 - a. Is the opposite also true? How might your discontented life have an effect on evangelism?

Are you looking for contentment in Christ, or in everything else?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Consider praying something like this: Lord, instead of living by “what if”, cause me to live by “what is”. Help me to stop worrying about what might happen, and start resting in what You say is true.

MEMORIZE FOR NEXT TIME

- *Philippians 4:10-13 - “I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”*

