



## WEEK 7 DEVOTIONAL

### WORTHY: Living Your Best Life NOW

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#### RECEIVE

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Slowly. Prayerfully, read and/or listen to Philippians 4:10–23, in two different translations: NIV and NLT or two of your favorites. Before and after each reading, pray asking the Spirit of Christ to form you through what you are reading. As you read or listen notice any words or phrases that particularly capture your attention. See if you can discern why they stood out.

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#### REFLECT

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1. Describe a time when you felt like all your needs were met? Can you think of a time when you were perfectly content? If not, why? How did that affect you or your relationships?
2. What is Paul rejoicing in?
3. Many people think of Philippians as a thank you letter. Yet, Paul never thanks the Philippians for their partnership with them. Here he says he “rejoiced in the Lord” for their concern. What does that tell you about Paul’s perspective regarding their financial help?
4. Why would it be significant for the Philippians to know that Paul is not rejoicing because they alleviated his need? (Hint: revisit the question “What is he specifically rejoicing for?”)
5. What is Paul’s secret to contentment and strength? How does this work?
6. How does Paul describe his relationship with the Philippians? How is his relationship with them unique among the churches he planted?
7. What is the difference between volunteering or donating and entering into partnership with someone?
8. What is Paul’s desire for the Philippians in their partnership? What is he seeking for them?

9. Why does Paul call their gift a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, and pleasing to God? Was it a gift to Paul or to God? How might the different perspectives affect someone's giving?
10. What might Paul want to emphasize about God's generosity with the phrase, "according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus?"
11. How does it affect you to think of God's generosity as "glorious riches?" How does it affect the way you remember that God provides for those "In Jesus Christ?"

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## RESPOND

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12. What keeps us from feeling the contentment that Paul felt? When do you live as though God was not meeting "all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus?"
13. How have you seen God provide for you in the past? (It may not be only physically, but spiritually or otherwise)
14. What would it look like to recognize God's provision in your life? How would it change the way you think about yourself, or your situation?
15. Who has God put into your life that is in need? What are their needs? What would it look like for you to partner with them and show concern for them?

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## RESOURCES

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[Explore Christ Church's Missions Partners and Serve Opportunities:](#) How can you meet the needs that are shared?

Great, short video [overview of Philippians by The Bible Project.](#)

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## SCRIPTURE

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### Philippians 4:10–23 | New International Version

<sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. <sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

<sup>14</sup> Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. <sup>15</sup> Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; <sup>16</sup> for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. <sup>17</sup> Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.

<sup>18</sup> I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

<sup>20</sup> To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. <sup>21</sup> Greet all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings. <sup>22</sup> All God's people here send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar's household.

<sup>23</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

### Philippians 4:10–23 | New Living Translation

<sup>10</sup> How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again. I know you have always been concerned for me, but you didn't have the chance to help me. <sup>11</sup> Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. <sup>12</sup> I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. <sup>13</sup> For I can do everything through Christ,<sup>[a]</sup> who gives me strength. <sup>14</sup> Even so, you have done well to share with me in my present difficulty.

<sup>15</sup> As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this. <sup>16</sup> Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once. <sup>17</sup> I don't say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness.

<sup>18</sup> At the moment I have all I need—and more! I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

<sup>20</sup> Now all glory to God our Father forever and ever! Amen.

<sup>21</sup> Give my greetings to each of God's holy people—all who belong to Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me send you their greetings. <sup>22</sup> And all the rest of God's people send you greetings, too, especially those in Caesar's household.

<sup>23</sup> May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.