



VOL 2 NO 1

SUMPATHEO VOICE

COMPASSIONATE TOUCH MINISTRIES

JANUARY 2015

GOD WILL MEET ALL YOUR NEEDS

Scripture: Philippians 4:10-20

We are living in an era of global instability. This not only causes great anxiety and growing uncertainty but also a constant threat to our faith by brewing fear into our lives. Even in



these days of turmoil, the greatest hope that carries us far is the promise of God mentioned 366 times in the Bible – “FEAR NOT”. **Phil 4: 10-13** is one of the greatest statements in the Bible on contentment. Read below God's message on contentment that will strengthen you even if you are in the midst of your uncertainties.

THE ATTITUDE OF CONTENTMENT

1. Contentment means to be careless in the care of the Lord. (vs 13)

Contentment does not mean self-sufficiency or complacency but God sufficiency. Contentment means peace of mind and emotions. Like in **Ps 131:2**, we should be weaned from our dependence on the things of the world. To be weaned is to have something removed from your life that you thought you couldn't live without. Without being weaned, there can't be growth. We should wean ourselves from dependence on worldly things, so we can grow closer to God.

2. Contentment means detached from circumstances. (vs 12)

For many people, happiness depends on the happenings. However, contentment comes from confidence in God and not from happenings. Both, poverty & prosperity are tests in life that can bring various circumstances of happiness or sorrow. You can attain contentment when you remain detached of these circumstances.

3. Contentment is a learnt behavior. (vs 11)

Contentment doesn't come automatically, it is a choice we make. Cultivating a quiet spirit and learning to be content in every circumstance requires effort. We must make a conscious effort to develop a quiet heart like Paul and learn to be content in all circumstances.

4. Contentment can be found only in Jesus. (vs 13)

Three truths of contentment:

(1) Nothing happens in my life by mere chance. Everything in life is ordained by the Almighty God. The truth in **Mat 10:30** should set us free from every fear, because God is in total control of our lives.

(2) Everything that happens in my life happens with a purpose. God works all things good for those who love him, and who have been called to his purpose (**Rom 8:28, 29**). Therefore, you must not play God, but trust God for all issues of your life.

(3) Jesus will give me strength in any and every circumstances to do His will. We may not be able to choose our circumstances but we can choose our attitude towards them.

CONTENTMENT STEALERS AND BOOSTERS

There can be both stealers and boosters for contentment in our lives. Here are the contentment stealers.

- ✓ **Greed: (Heb 13:5, 6)** Greed says, “If only”. Many times greed gives us a false feeling such as “only if I had this or that.”, then I would be a happy person”. When we begin to feel that way, we can never be content because there is no end to cravings and wantings.
- ✓ **Envy: (Ps 73; Ps 37:8, 9)** Envy is the greed to have what others have. When we have envy in our life we can never be happy in our existing state but we will always look at others and desire to have what they have. And, this can steal contentment from our lives.
- ✓ **I deserve more attitude: (1 Tim 6:6-8; Ps 78:19-21)** Many times the pride within us says that we deserve more in our life. When we begin to feel that we deserve more in our life, we can never be content in the present situation. All we possess in life is because of God's grace.

Here are the contentment boosters:

- ✓ **Giving: (Phil 4:14-18)** When we give consistently and sacrificially by giving our best and first to God and His purposes, it boosts our contentment.
- ✓ **Gratitude: (Phil 4:10)** An attitude of gratitude beyond our aptitude will take us to an altitude to influence a multitude. Like Paul, when we think and thank God and others for all the small and big things we received in life, it increases our contentment.
- ✓ **Trust in God: (Phil 4:11-13)** When we trust in God we can be content in Him that HE will enable us to meet any need when it arises.

THE PROMISE OF CONTENTMENT

The promise of contentment is only for the contributors such as the Philippians Church and not for the consumers.

Phil 4:19 “My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in Glory”. The source is my God, the Scope is all your needs and the Standard is God's riches in glory.

May God enable us to enjoy this source, scope, and standard in our lives without any limits in 2015.

God bless you!

- Pastor Benny

PRISCILLA'S CORNER



Prevailing Grace

By John Piper

"I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners . . ."

(Isaiah 57:18)

Learn your doctrine from biblical texts. It stands up better that way, and feeds the soul. For example, learn irresistible grace from texts. In this way, you will see it does not mean grace cannot be resisted; it means that when God chooses, he can and will overcome that resistance.

In **Isaiah 57:17–19**, for instance, God chastises his rebellious people by striking them and hiding his face: "Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry, I struck him; I hid my face and was angry" (**vs 17**).

But they did not respond with repentance. Rather, they kept backsliding. They resisted: "But he went on backsliding in the way of his own heart" (**vs 17**).

So grace can be resisted. In fact, Stephen said to the Jewish leaders, "You always resist the Holy Spirit" (**Acts 7:51**).

What then does God do? Is he powerless to bring those who resist to repentance and wholeness? No. The next verse says, "I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners" (**vs 18**).

So, in the face of recalcitrant, grace-resisting backsliding, God says, "I will heal him." He will "restore" — the word is "make whole or complete." It is related to the word shalom, "peace." That wholeness and peace is mentioned in the next verse which explains how God turns around a grace-resisting backslider.

He does it by "creating the fruit of the lips. 'Peace, peace (shalom, shalom), to the far and to the near,' says the LORD, and I will heal him" (**vs 19**). God creates what is not there. This is how we are saved. And this is how we are brought back from backsliding.

The grace of God triumphs over our resistance by creating praise where it did not exist. He brings shalom, shalom to the near and the far. Wholeness, wholeness to the near and the

far. He does it by "restoring," that is, replacing the disease of resistance with the soundness of submission.

The point of irresistible grace is not that we can't resist. We can, and we do. The point is that when God chooses, he overcomes our resistance and restores a submissive spirit. He creates. He says, "Let there be light!" He heals. He leads. He restores. He comforts.

Therefore, we never boast that we have returned from backsliding. We fall on our faces before the Lord and with trembling joy thank him for his irresistible grace.



My Lord, My Companion

As I stand on the world's highest mountains,
I know You are with me
As I walk in the world's deepest valleys,
I know You are there
As I sail on the world's deepest seas,
I know You are by my side
As I view the endless blue waters,
I am reminded of Your eternal love
As I walk in the world's thicket forests,
I know You are by my side
As I cast my eyes on the blue endless skies,
I am reminded of Your infinite love
As I cross the world's largest deserts,
I know You care for me
As I look at the landscapes,
I am glad for You created them all
As I travel the world's greatest cities,
Your company keeps me whole
As I fly in the world's biggest planes,
Your presence comforts me
As I take a walk in the countryside,
You keep me company
As I inhale the spring scented morning breeze,
I know You will always be there each day
As I cycle downtown with my hair flowing backwards,
I know You won't abandon me.
As I walk down the street my soul rejoices and
I am glad for You first loved me.

TIMOTHY'S CORNER



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
TIME

We had a wonderful Christmas program in our Church on December 21, 2014. The Sunday's school kids recited memory verses that they studied in their classes and also enacted the Nativity Skit. Brother B S Kumar from Scripture Union, ministered God's word to the kids and also to the adults. He preached on the importance of bringing up kids in the fear of God and also memorization of the scripture. All the kids received Christmas gifts at the end of the program and were really excited. Here are a few glimpses of the program:

Beginner kids reciting the memory verses



The shepherds watching the flock by night



Magi meeting King Herod



Kids singing "Nanna hattiraviru yesuve"



Bangalore South Church

Time: Sundays at 4:30 pm

Age Group: 4 to 18 years

Experience: Lively worship, God's Word, and Fellowship in Kannada and English

Unscramble Psalm 91:11-12

"O F R E H I L W L M C A O N M D I S H G L A E S N
C R O N N I C N E G O Y U O T U R D A G U O Y N I
L A L R O Y U W S Y A . N O H I T R E S H N A D H Y E T
L W I L A E R B O U Y P U "

News & Notes

Shower of God's Blessings

Harsha & Sushma were blessed with a baby boy on
6th Nov 2014



Dennis & Christeena were blessed with a baby girl on
28th Nov 2014



Nelson & Daya were blessed with a baby girl on
4th Dec 2014



Prayer Requests



- * Exponential Growth in quality and quantity of the Church
- * VBS from 4th to 9th of May 2015
- * Open doors among the locals, in Banashankari, Basavanagudi, Jayanagar, J P Nagar, Padmanabhanagar, Bannerghatta Road, and Uttarahalli
- * Revival Meeting on 14th and 15th of March 2015
- * 10 new families to be added each to the English and Kannada services



On March 14th & 15th we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of our Church. Pastor Varaprasad from Agape AG Church, Raichur will be ministering God's word on these two days.

Sermons for this month on the topic— “Closer Through Prayer”

- 04.01.15 - “A.S.K (Ask. Seek. Knock)” by Pastor Benny
- 11.01.15 - “Knowing God through Prayer” by Pastor Benny
- 18.01.15 - “Grow up in your prayers” by Pastor Benny
- 25.01.15 - “Knocking on behalf of others” by Pastor Benny

These messages are available in MP3 format. Please contact the church office for the same.

OUR VISION:

To reach Karnataka and the globe with the compassionate heart of Jesus Christ.

OUR MISSION:

To establish self propagating, self governing, self supporting spirit- filled churches with equal focus on prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.

Contact Us

Office Address : # 57, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, Pai Layout, Hulimavu Main Road,
Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560 076 Phone : 080-26483080 Mobile : 98440 36202
E-mail : touchcompassionate@gmail.com