



Good Shepherd Baptist Church

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✝ ✝ ✝ *"Getting The Word of God To The People"* ✝ ✝ ✝



Wisdom Of The Week



From the desk of Interim Pastor Henry B. Wallace

LEARN THE LESSON

Philippians 4:11-13

As we study God's Word, as we stand in faith on God's Word, we will "Learn the Lesson" that the Apostle Paul learned.

What lesson did Paul learn? Paul learned that changing circumstances did not affect the inner contentment he enjoyed.

When the people in Paul's day used this word content it meant "self-sufficient.", or "human self-reliance". But Paul used it to refer to a divinely bestowed sufficiency, no matter what the circumstances were.

At times Paul experienced definite financial and material needs, and at other times he had an abundance (v. 12).

He learned how to cope with both need and plenty. In the words, I have learned, Paul is saying, through experience, I've learned to be content when either well fed or hungry, and either in plenty or in want. Paul said he could do everything—including handling poverty and living in abundance—through Him who gave him strength. This was not an expression of pride in his own abilities but a declaration of the strength provided by Christ.

The Wisdom Of The Week teaches us that it is through the experiences of having much, and through the experiences of having a little that we will learn the lesson that our God will create contentment in our heart. After all, according to Philippians 4:18, isn't HE not the God who will and has supplied all we need "according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus"?
