Small Group Discussion Guide

The Promise of His Provision: For the week of May 17 - 23, 2020

Main Thoughts and Scriptures:

Philippians 4:10-19 NIV

"...I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I 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. ¹³I can do all this through him who gives me strength." (v. 11-13)

While imprisoned for preaching the gospel, the Apostle Paul shared the secret to contentment no matter the circumstances: **draw your strength from God**.

"Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles... ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account... They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." (v. 14, 16-19)

He thanked the church in Philippi for their generosity in helping him and affirmed **God's promise to meet all of their needs** as a result.

The lesson: You can't out give God. God gives US strength to thrive in any circumstance and promises to provide for us as we are generous towards the needs of others.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

(2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NIV)

Discussion Question Options (choose those that apply):

- What stands out to you from the main thought and scriptures above and why?
- Have you ever experienced God giving you strength in the midst of a crisis? What happened and what did you learn?
- Have you ever experienced God's miraculous provision as you were generous to serving the needs of others? What happened and what did you learn?
- How can you be generous towards serving the needs of others during this crisis?

Prayer:

- Pray for one another that God will meet our needs as we trust in Him.
- Pray for opportunities to meet the needs of others during this crisis.