

Satisfied in Christ, we can live other-centered lives.

I. Satisfied (1-4)

A. Filled Full (1)

"If" (as is the case) Since there is ...

B. Same Source, Same Mind (2)

C. Other-centered Living (3-4)

1. Never, never.

2. But, in humility ...

a. Place others in a place of value before yourself.

b. Look to the interest of others.

II. Modeled by Jesus (5-11)

III. Practiced by Us (12-30)

A. Work your salvation. (12-16)

1. Not "work for" but "work it" (12)

2. God's faithful work in and through us enables us to work. (13)

B. Paul is poured out for them. (17-18)

C. Timothy (19-24)

D. Epaphroditus (25-30)

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

"TO KNOW HIM
Philippians 3:1 - 4:1

Passage Overview:

Paul had one overwhelming passion, longing and desire in life; to know Christ. The incomparable value of Jesus so overwhelmed his senses, his mind, and his heart, that every other good thing became as rubbish in comparison. This singular longing gave his life extraordinary focus and purpose.

The unsurpassed wonder and infinite riches in the person of Jesus meant that this pursuit was constantly fulfilling yet never completed. Jesus' measureless excellencies mean that a constant wholehearted pursuit of knowing Him constantly yields wonder that uniquely satisfies the soul, while never exhausting the limitless reservoir of His perfections. So we perpetually long for more of Him.

In these verses, Paul unpacks his never-ending desire to know more of Christ, personally, intimately, and practically. The more he understands of Christ, the more committed he becomes to live for Him. He strains out every ounce of energy within him in order to fulfill the purposes for which his life was rescued by Jesus. Refusing to be encumbered by the past, he stretches forward to serve Jesus with great excitement as he anticipates His final return.

Although Paul lived a very active life as a Roman citizen, his highest and ultimate allegiance was to Christ. He was a citizen of heaven, and so are we. Living in the confident anticipation of our King's return, we don't disengage from the world in which we live now. Instead, we live today with singular purpose and focus, straining every effort for His glory, as we thrill and thrive in the wonder of knowing Jesus Himself.

Reading for Next Week: Phil 3:1 – 4:1