

Fulfillment in Christ
Phil. 4:11-12

Thesis: I want to stress the importance of being content with what we have physically.

- Intro:
1. Who wants to be poor?
 - a. Who wants to be without a home?
 - b. Who wants to be hungry?
 2. We all understand the value of having an abundance of material blessings.
 3. It is nice to be blessed through the many avenues we are, but physical belongings and possessions should not determine our happiness.
 4. Please turn to **Phil. 4:11-12**.

I. Know How to Abound.

- A. It is possible to abound and be pleasing to God.
 1. Job was rich and righteous (**Job 1:1-3, 8**).
 2. Abraham was very rich and righteous (**Gen. 13:1-6**).
- B. We must remember those who are in need.
 1. We must help orphans and widows (**James 1:27**).
 2. We must be willing to share our money (**I Tim. 6:17-18**).

II. Know How to Be Abased.

- A. We may not have plenty (Discuss the differences between needs and wants.).
 1. The poor widow only had two mites (**Mark 12:41-44**).
 2. Lazarus did not have anything to eat (**Luke 16:19-21**).
- B. We will at times suffer emotionally.
 1. We will at times be saddened (**Rom. 12:15**).
 2. **Christ suffered emotionally (Matt. 14:3-13; John 11:32-35).**
- C. We will at times suffer persecution (**II Tim 3:12**).

III. Know How to Be Content.

- A. Physical possessions are irrelevant.
 1. All physical possessions will be destroyed (**Matt. 6:19-21**).
 2. If we gain the whole world but lose Christ, what have we gained (**Matt. 16:26**)?
- B. If we have Christ, we have everything.
 1. Paul had a rough life, but he was content (**II Cor. 11:24-28**).
 2. Physically, Lazarus had nothing, but in reality he had everything (**Luke 16:22-26**).

- Conc:
1. Are you content with your life?
 2. Do you have the happiness that nobody can ever take away?
 3. Trusting in physical blessings will always disappoint, but Christ never will!
 4. OFFER THE INVITATION.