

Sermon: The Tactics of the Enemy (Discontentment)

1. Read Philippians 4:10-23. Slowly re-read Philippians 4:10-13.

2. Describe the overall tone of this passage.

3. What do Paul's words teach you about contentment?

4. The Greek term for "learned" is used only here in the New Testament. It was an expression used to describe an initiation by experience. What kind of experiences had Paul had? Read the following passages and record your findings.

· 1 Corinthians 4:11-13—

· 2 Corinthians 11:23-29—

5. How could Paul, a prisoner and one who had experienced so many difficulties, possibly be content? See the following passages for hints.

· 2 Corinthians 4:7-10—

· 2 Corinthians 4:16-18—

· 2 Corinthians 12:8-10—

6. In what circumstances do you struggle with being content? Why do you suppose it is such a struggle?

7. Read Habakkuk 3:17-18. What decision did Habakkuk make?

8. What decisions can you make now so that you are prepared to endure those times of struggle?