

Care Group Homework
(For the week of March 15, 2009)
Philippians 4:11-13 - Whatever the Circumstances

Scripture verse to commit to memory

“I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

1. Yesterday was St. Patrick’s day. Did you do anything to celebrate?
2. Paul talks about living in many different circumstances. Share about the changes in your circumstances during your life.
3. These verses focus on contentment. Where else do you see the Bible speak of contentment?
Luke 3:14; 2 Corinthians 12:10; 1 Timothy 6:8; Hebrews 13:5
4. Compare verse 12 in the NIV and NASB. Does hearing it from a different translation change your understanding of the passage?
The NASB might imply that Paul hasn’t actually lived through the conditions, but rather knows how to live through the conditions of both plenty and want. It seems as though the NIV implies he has experienced both.
5. Paul uses three pairs of terms in verse 12, what are they and how are they different?
To be in need and to have plenty, to be well fed or hungry, to live in plenty or in want. The second pair implies far more of a physical issue. The first and last may be different in one speaking of needs and the other of wants, which can be dramatically different.
6. Verse 13 says we can do “everything” through Christ who gives us strength. What limits do you think this has?
It probably is limited by things which are not sinful.
7. How do you see verse 13 apply beyond contentment?
Whatever God asks me to do, I can do through His strength. The strength spoken of in verse 13 is probably not limited to the strength to be content.
8. Share a time when you felt that Christ gave you strength. How can we rely on the strength of Christ?
9. Why do you think that we have such a hard time with contentment today? What are some ways that we can make contentment part of our lives?