

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Philippians Bible Study

Philippians 4:8-16 Lesson #10

**INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in Philippians before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.
Most Scriptures are from the New King James Version.

8 Finally, brethren, **whatever things are TRUE, whatever things are NOBLE, whatever things are PURE, whatever things are LOVELY, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.**

•**Galatians 5:22-23** “But the fruit of the Spirit is _____, joy, _____, longsuffering (PATIENCE), _____, _____. Against such there is no law.”

•**Psalm 19:7-10** “The law of the Lord is _____, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is _____, making wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord are _____, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is _____, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is _____, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are _____ and _____ altogether. More to be desired are they than _____, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than _____ and the honeycomb.”

Definition: “Whatever things are TRUE, whatever things are NOBLE, whatever things are PURE” – All this list of qualities includes things that are mentioned in the FRUIT of the SPIRIT, and in the LOVE chapter of I Corinthians 13, and the list of character qualities II Peter 1:5-8 says that we need to develop in our lives. **These qualities are also similar to those used to describe the WORD of GOD in Psalm 19:7-10.** Obviously, as Christians, we should be reading and meditating on God’s word, but we should also be careful of the other things we put in front of our eyes, or hear with our ears, as **NEGATIVE things will influence us in a harmful way.**

•**II Peter 1:5-8** “But also for this very reason giving all _____, _____ to your _____ virtue (moral excellence); and to _____ knowledge; and to knowledge _____ - _____; and to self-control perseverance (patience); and to perseverance _____; and to godliness brotherly _____; and to brotherly kindness _____. For if these are yours and abound, you will be _____ barren _____ unfruitful in the _____ of our Lord _____ Christ.”

Definition: “VIRTUE; KNOWLEDGE; SELF-CONTROL; PERSEVERANCE; GODLINESS; BROTHERLY KINDNESS; and LOVE” – Verse 8 says, “For if these are yours and abound, you will be **neither barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” So, if you are NOT unfruitful, then you must be FRUITFUL, right? **These qualities are just another way to say the “FRUIT of the Holy Spirit”** as listed in Galatians 5:22-23, and also are amazingly like the description of what love is in I Corinthians 13:1-8. The “Love Chapter” of the Bible, I Corinthians 13, tells us what love is, and also what it is not. A careful study of this description of love shows us that **it includes the fruit of the Spirit,** although some are described from the negative side: **love is NOT puffed up with pride** (fruit of goodness, also called meekness, or humility), **does NOT behave rudely** (fruit of gentleness, kindness), does not seek its own (is not selfish), is not provoked (doesn’t get easily irritated, fruit of patience, gentleness, self-control), and thinks no evil (fruit of faithfulness). Love suffers long (is patient) and is kind (fruit of patience, kindness), and so forth. Someone behaving rudely, or puffed up with pride, or acting in an unkind manner would **obviously NOT be filled with the Spirit,** since these things are the opposite of

the fruit of the Spirit.

• **Romans 12:10** “Be _____ affectionate to one _____ with _____ love, in honor giving preference to one another.”

• **I Corinthians 13:4-8** “ _____ suffers long (is patient) and is _____; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up (with pride); does _____ behave _____, does not seek its own (is not selfish), is not provoked (not easily irritated), thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the _____; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. _____ never fails.”

• **Ephesians 5:9-10** “(for the _____ of the _____ is in all _____, righteousness, and truth), proving what is _____ to the Lord.”

9 The things which **you LEARNED and received and HEARD and SAW in me, these DO**, and the **God of PEACE** will be with you.

• **Philippians 3:17** “Brethren, join in _____ my _____, and note those who so walk, as you have _____ for a _____.”

• **Romans 15:33** “Now the _____ of _____ be with you all. Amen.”

• **II Thessalonians 3:16** “Now may the _____ of _____ Himself _____ you _____ always in every way. The _____ be with you all.”

• **John 16:33** “These things I have spoken to you, that in _____ you may have _____. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have _____ the world.”

• **John 14:27** “ _____ I leave with you. My _____ I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not _____ your heart be troubled, neither _____ it be _____.”

Definition: “You LEARNED and received and HEARD and SAW in me, these DO” – Paul is saying we can look to him as an **EXAMPLE** of what a **Believer in Christ should be like**. Of course, **JESUS is always our example**, and we should learn to live our life as He would want us to do, but it’s also nice to have a “normal human being” to be an example. Jesus was completely without sin, and we humans are all still struggling with sin in our lives, so to see an **EXAMPLE** of a human being who is just like us, and yet **they have reached a place in their walk with the Lord where they can say, “Look to me for an EXAMPLE”** that is really encouraging.

• **I Peter 5:2-3** “ _____ the _____ of God which is among you, serving as overseers (pastors), not by constraint (being forced) but willingly, not for _____ gain but eagerly; not as being _____ over those _____ to you, but being _____ to the flock.”

• **I Thessalonians 1:5-6** “For our _____ did not come to you in word only, but also in _____, and in the _____ and in much assurance, as you know what _____ of _____ we were among you for your sake. And you became _____ of _____ and of the _____, having received the word in much affliction, with _____ of the _____.”

10-13 But I **REJOICED in the Lord greatly** that now at last **your CARE for me has flourished** again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in regard to **NEED**, for I have learned **in whatever state I am, to be CONTENT**; I know how to be **ABASED**, and I know how to **ABOUND**. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to **ABOUND** and to suffer **NEED**. **I can do ALL THINGS through Christ who STRENGTHENS me.**

• **II Corinthians 11:9** “And when I was present with you, and in _____, I was a burden to no one, for what was _____ to me the _____ who came from _____. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep myself.”

Definition: “Your CARE for me has flourished” – To FLOURISH means to grow, succeed, prosper. The Philippian church had sent a gift to Paul several years before (to support his ministry), and were not able to for a while, but were now able, and they were sending a financial gift to Paul to help support him while he was in prison. The prisons in those days did NOT supply much in the way of food and other needs, but people depended on friends and family to bring them food, clothing, and whatever they needed in prison.

• **Acts 28:16** “Now when we came to _____, the centurion delivered the _____ to the captain of the guard; but _____ was _____ to _____ by _____ with the _____ who _____ him.”

• **Acts 28:30-31** “Then _____ dwelt _____ whole _____ in his own rented _____, and received all who came to him, _____ the kingdom of God and _____ the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.”

Definition: “In whatever STATE I am, to be CONTENT” – Paul is saying that he is content (happy) in whatever CONDITION or CIRCUMSTANCES he finds himself in.

• **Hebrews 13:5-6** “Let your conduct be without covetousness, and be _____ with what you _____. For He Himself has said, 'I will NEVER _____ you, nor _____ you', so we may _____ say, 'The _____ is my _____; I will NOT _____. What can _____ do to me?'"

• **I Timothy 6:6-8** “But _____ with _____ is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is _____ we can carry _____ out. And having _____ and _____, with these we shall be content.”

• **Psalm 49:16-17** “Do not be afraid when one becomes _____, when the glory of his house (material possessions) is _____; for when he _____ he shall _____ away; his glory shall not descend after him.”

• **Proverbs 30:8** “Remove falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither _____ nor _____ – feed me with the _____. You prescribe for me; lest I be _____ and _____ You, and say, ‘Who is the _____?’ Or lest I be _____ and _____, and profane the name of my God.”

Definition: “GODLINESS with CONTENTMENT is great GAIN” – Being “CONTENT” or “CONTENTMENT” means to be happy enough or satisfied with what you have, and not desiring anything else. God’s word here in I Timothy says, “Having food and clothing, with these we shall be content,” and yet most of us are not content with just those basic things. Everything we receive from God is a blessing, and **we should be thankful for ALL of His wonderful gifts and benefits He gives us.** Most of us have far more than just food and clothing to be thankful for.

• **Psalm 103:2-5** “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His _____; who _____ all your iniquities (sins), who heals all your diseases. Who _____ your _____ from _____, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender _____, who _____ your mouth with _____, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

Definition: “I can do ALL THINGS through CHRIST who STRENGTHENS me” – We need to read this verse in context, which is Paul speaking about being in need at times, and having everything he

needs at other times. It means we can go through ALL kinds of situations and circumstances in the STRENGTH that Jesus gives us. So, when it says "all things" it does NOT mean selfish, foolish things, such as a person saying, "I can win the billion dollar lottery through Christ who strengthens me," or "I can jump off this roof and fly through Christ who strengthens me" or some other such ridiculous thing.

• **Ephesians 6:10** "Finally, my brethren, be _____ in the _____, and in the power of His _____."

• **Isaiah 40:29-31** "He gives _____ to the weary, and to him who lacks _____ He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who wait for (put their TRUST in) the Lord will gain new _____; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and _____ get tired, they will walk and _____ become weary."

• **Colossians 1:10-11** "That you may have a _____ worthy of the _____, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; _____ with all _____, according to His glorious _____, for all patience and longsuffering with joy."

• **Ephesians 3:16** "That He would grant (give) you, according to the riches of His glory, to be _____ with _____ through His _____ in the _____."

14-16 Nevertheless you have done well that you SHARED in my DISTRESS. Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, **no CHURCH SHARED with ME concerning GIVING and RECEIVING but you only.** For even in Thessalonica you sent AID once and again for my NECESSITIES.

• **Luke 6:38** "_____, and it will be _____ to _____; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom (dropped in your lap). For with the _____ that you use, it will be _____ back to _____ again."

Definition: "SHARED with ME concerning GIVING and RECEIVING" – The so-called "prosperity preachers" have gone overboard, and because of them, some Christians have not understood what God's word really says about **RECEIVING financial and material blessings from God.** If we follow the law of sowing and reaping, we see that the person who holds onto "their money" tightly, and is stingy in their giving to the Lord (sows sparingly), will also reap fewer and smaller blessings from the Lord. The person who is generous and cheerful in their giving will receive (reap) greater blessings from God, and all of their needs will be taken care of by God. To the one who is faithful in tithing and giving offerings, the Lord even promises to "open the windows of heaven and pour out blessings" that will be over and above what we need. Jesus promises that **"with the SAME MEASURE that you use, it shall be measured to you again."** This is the law of sowing and reaping, just using different words.

• **II Corinthians 9:6-7** "But this I say: He who _____ sparingly will also _____ sparingly, and he who sows _____ will also _____ bountifully (generously). So let each one _____ as he purposes in his heart, _____ grudgingly or of necessity; for God _____ a _____ giver. And God is able to make _____ grace _____ toward you; that you, _____ having all _____ (all your needs supplied) in _____ things, have an _____ for every good work."

• **Malachi 3:10** "Bring _____ the _____ (offerings) into the storehouse (of the Lord), so that there will be provision in _____; and prove (test) Me now in this, says the Lord, whether I will _____ the _____ of _____, and pour you out a _____ until there is _____ than _____."