

Lessons Learned About God, Life, and Man

1. Living life in relationship with Jesus will help you be successful in every other relationship, 4:2.
2. Living life in relationship with Jesus will give you the ability to help others restore their broken relationships, 4:3.
3. Living life in relationship with Jesus will give you the ability to rejoice regardless of your circumstances, 4:2-4.
4. If you want to be gentle and patient with others, you have to live “in the Lord.” That is, if you want to not respond with anger and frustration, then you have to live in relationship with Jesus where you will find the capacity to love those who are not lovable, 4:2-5.
5. Did you know that at any given moment you have the ability to go the other way....you don't have to keep fighting with your friend. Why? *The Lord is near*, 4:2-5.
6. Did you know that the anxiety that comes with daily living can be avoided? If you live life in relationship with Jesus, you won't be anxious. In fact, it will cause you to take your anxious needs to God because you know that He will listen and do something about them. That's not all, it will set your mind at ease; it will protect you from the anxiety you would've experienced. Instead you will experience a peace that is unexplainable, 4:6-7.
7. If you live in relationship with Jesus, you will inevitably think and do things that are: noble, just, pure, lovely, commendable, virtuous, and praiseworthy. What's the result of living such a life? The God of unexplainable peace, that God will be with you, 4:8-9.
8. We are not simply meant to go to church, study our Bibles, do devotionals, pray, or sing worship songs. We are meant to live in relationship with Jesus and to show others how to do the same, 4:9.
9. As children of God, we're supposed to care deeply about each other, 4:10.
10. The ability to be content regardless of your circumstances—whether you have all the money in the world or you're struggling to pay your bills, whether things are perfect or everything's going wrong—does not come from a Bible study (whether 1 Bible study or a 1,000,000). It comes from experiencing life together with Jesus, 4:11-13.
11. The strength required to get through this difficult life successfully comes from one place alone: Christ, 4:13.
12. As children of God, we're supposed to support each other, financially and otherwise, even if we don't belong to the same church, 4:14-16.
13. It's OK to want financial support from your brothers and sisters in Christ, but you should also want to see and rejoice in the fact that their financial support is something that makes them rewardable before the Lord, 4:17. In other words, you should want to see the Lord bless them as He's blessing you through them.
14. Providing generous financial help to your brothers and sisters in Christ who are in need puts a big smile on God's face, 4:18.

15. If you give generously to those in need and this causes you to be in need, then God will make up the difference. He will provide everything you need, 4:19.
16. Whether we have everything we need and more or not, we should praise God regardless, 4:11-20.
17. As God's family, we're supposed to be close...like family, 4:22-23.

Philippians 4 Summarized

Sentences

4:2-3, I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names *are* in the Book of Life.

4:4-5, rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

4:6-7, be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

4:8, finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, 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.

4:9, the things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

4:10, 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.

4:11-13, 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.

4:14, nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress.

4:15-16, 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.

4:17-18, not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things *sent* from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

4:19, and my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

4: 20, now to our God and Father *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.