



Satisfaction Is Difficult

September 23, 2012

[Philippians 1:12-26](#)

Life is cruel. Life is overwhelming. Life doesn't make sense. Life can eat you up and spit you out. How can we find contentment in the middle of the valley?

Consider & Discuss

1. In which area(s) of your life do you find it most difficult to be content? Why?
2. What makes you angry? Frustrated? Afraid? Impatient? Why?
3. Read [Philippians 1:12-26](#). What do you think about Paul's attitude toward the difficulties he's facing?
4. How would you describe what's at the heart of Paul's ability to be content in the midst of his challenging circumstances?
5. Do you think it's realistic for us to think that we can follow Paul's example? If so, how can we do it?
6. Read [2 Corinthians 4:16 - 5:1](#). How do you see this passage relating to Philippians 1:12-26 and the issue of contentment?

Live It

1. Take some time each day to thank God for the ways He has blessed you.
2. Each day this week pray about a difficulty you expect to face that day. Ask God to show you how He wants you to grow as you walk through that challenge. Ask Him to help you to strengthen your faith in the midst of that difficulty.
3. Prayerfully read either [Philippians 1:12-26](#) or [2 Corinthians 4:16 - 5:1](#) each day this week. Look for something that challenges or encourages you. Ask God to enable you to take another step closer to Him as you meditate on that passage.