

# appnotes

## DAY 1 READ PHILIPPIANS 4:10-14

1

Have you ever felt empty? That, no matter how full your life, your soul still hungers for more? The opposite of empty is content. Contentment means to be full or satisfied. It is the idea that I am happy with what I have. We are all born hungry and can spend years searching for something that satisfies. The Apostle Paul teaches us that contentment is not based on our circumstances. He learned to be content when he had plenty and when he was in prison with nothing. Paul found out the secret to contentment was not more stuff, it was more of the Son. When you feel empty, and you are tempted to fill your bag with more stuff, your mouth with more food, and your mind with more entertainment, try this instead: stuff yourself on your Savior.

## DAY 2 READ ECCLESIASTES 5:10-20

2

Have you ever struggled just to get by? Most of us have at some point in our lives. Perhaps you are struggling today. It's easy to fall into the mindset that money will cure all of your problems. It won't. Recently, a national lottery prize began to approach one billion dollars. Each day that the prize increased, more and more players emerged. How fascinating that, 700 million dollars was not enough to motivate some people, but 900 million was! Ask yourself: "How much do I need? What should I be willing to do to get it? How much time with my family should I be willing to sacrifice? Are my children worth more to me than that new luxury car?" The answers to these types of questions will help you navigate through a world that is constantly shouting that more money is everything!

## DAY 3 READ JOHN 12:1-8

3

Part of the fun of watching sports is watching the fans. The cheering and smiling, the heartbreak and crying. The painted faces and elaborate costumes. Have you ever noticed that the bigger the fan, the bigger a fool they are willing to make of themselves on national television? Fair weather fans look the part until you put them next to the diehard fan. That was Mary. She was a diehard follower of Jesus. What a contrast between Mary and Judas! Her generosity demonstrated a loving heart while his stinginess demonstrated greed. Mary was willing to make a generous fool of herself. What we do with what we have reveals whom we love. Check your heart by checking your checkbook. Take an honest look at how you are spending your life by asking this question at the close of the day, "What have I done today just because I love Him?"

## DAY READ PSALM 100:1-5

4

What makes you jump out of your seat and cheer? Maybe a win in the big game, a promotion at work, or even the birth of a new baby? These are all great things, but Psalm 100 tells us to shout our thanksgiving to God because he is God. He made us; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. In other words, we should shout to the Lord because we are in the very best of hands. There is nothing that we could ever gain in this life that can equal the security of being in God's care. Wealth, fame, beauty, health, and friends can and will disappear, but God's love and faithfulness endure forever. That's something to shout about!

## DAY READ LUKE 17:11-17

5

What would you do if your wish was fulfilled? Leprosy is a horrible disease. It is contagious, disfiguring, and ultimately fatal. In Biblical times, there was no cure. Lepers were put out of society and left to care for themselves. When Jesus cured ten lepers, it was a big deal. These men were given back their lives. They were not only cured of an ugly disease, but they were able to return to their families and resume their position in society. Their deepest desires were fulfilled. But only one of them stopped to thank Jesus. Let's not get so focused on the blessings that we forget to thank the One who provided them. What if we only had today, what we thanked God for yesterday?

AppNotes are available on our Facebook page, Monday-Friday.

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