

Sermon Title: **"LEARNING THE SECRETS OF A CONTENTED LIFE!"**

Sermon Text: **Philippians 4: 10-13**

Introduction:

GOOD MORNING TO ALL! THANK YOU FOR JOINING US IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY! AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL YOU WHO ARE JOINING US FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY IN OUR SUNDAY SERVICE CELEBRATION.

AS WE LEARNED LAST WEEK, PHILIPPIANS IS ONE OF THE PRISON LETTERS OF PAUL (ROMANS, COLOSSIANS, PHILEMON, 1 & 2 TIMOTHY). AND HE WROTE THIS LETTER TO ENCOURAGE THE PHILIPPIANS CHURCH TO CONTINUE THEIR FAITHFUL DEVOTION & SERVICE TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST & NOT TO WORRY & BE ANXIOUS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT. HE EVEN TELLS THEM IN CHAPTER 1 OF THE LETTER THAT IT IS HELPING THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL & THAT HE IS NOT AFRAID TO DIE. WHAT IS IRONIC IS THIS LETTER IS A BOOK/LETTER OF JOY BECAUSE PAUL WAS ACTUALLY THE ONE EXHORTING THOSE OUTSIDE TO REJOICE IN THE LORD! ALSO, HERE PAUL WANTED TO THANK THEM FOR THEIR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL MINISTRY & BEING HIS FAITHFUL & GENEROUS SUPPORTER AS A MISSIONARY OR CHURCH PLANTER.

THIS IS ACTUALLY THE CONTEXT OF OUR PASSAGE TODAY. AND IN THE MIDST OF THANKING THE PHILIPPIAN CHURCH, PAUL SHARED TO US THE SECRET TO HIS JOYFUL & CONTENTED LIFE.

NOW, IF THERE IS ANOTHER QUALITY OF LIFE THAT WE MUST LEARN IF WE ARE TO BECOME STRONG BELIEVERS OF THE LORD WHEN FACING LIFE'S ADVERSITIES OR CRISIS LIKE THE COVID CRISIS WE ARE FACING TODAY, WE MUST BECOME A CONTENTED PEOPLE! WE MUST LEARN TO BE CONTENT OR GODLY CONTENTMENT. THIS IS WHAT THE APOSTLE PAUL IS GOING TO TEACH US THIS MORNING!

LET US PRAY!!!

IN OUR PASSAGE TODAY, THE APOSTLE PAUL IS GOING TO TEACH US WHAT GODLY CONTENTMENT IS & WHAT IT IS NOT. AND

FOR OUR APPLICATION, WE ARE GOING TO LOOK AT HOW WE CAN EQUIP OURSELVES HOW TO LEARN GODLY CONTENTMENT.

A. WHAT GODLY CONTENTMENT IS **NOT**!

1) IT IS **NOT BASED** ON OUR **CIRCUMSTANCES** IN LIFE!

*“I rejoiced in the Lord greatly because once again you renewed your care for me. You were, in fact, concerned about me but lacked the opportunity to show it. I don’t say this out of need, for I have learned to be content in **whatever circumstances** I find myself. I know how to make do with little, and I know how to make do with a lot. **In any and all circumstances** I have learned the secret of being content—whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need.” (vv. 10-12)*

PAUL IS TELLING US HERE IN VERSES 11-12, THAT HE LEARNED CONTENTMENT IS NOT BASED ON HIS “CIRCUMSTANCES” IN LIFE! NOW, WHAT ARE THESE “CIRCUMSTANCES” IN HIS LIFE? THESE INCLUDES...

a) THE “**PLACE/POSITION/POSSESSIONS**” WHERE YOU ARE/WHAT YOU HAVE RIGHT NOW!

WE OFTEN HEAR PEOPLE SAY THAT “IF I AM ONLY LIVE IN A MANSION OR HILLSIDE, I WILL BE CONTENT” OR “IF I AM ONLY RICH, I WILL BE CONTENT” OR “IF I ONLY GET THAT PROMOTION OR IF I BECOME MANAGER OR CEO I WILL BE CONTENT!” “IF ONLY I HAVE A NEW HOUSE OR CAR...”

TAKE NOTE HERE THAT PAUL WAS IN A PRISONER/POSITION & IN A PRISON CELL/PLACE & HAD ALMOST NOTHING w/ HIM, **YET** IT DID NOT STOP HIM FROM BEING JOYFUL & CONTENT! THIS MEANS THAT EVEN IF WE LIVE IN FAIRVIEW OR IN A MANSION, ONE COULD STILL BE JOYFUL & CONTENT! THIS MEANS THAT EVEN IF YOU ARE A MANAGER OR CEO OR SENATOR OR PRESIDENT, IT IS NOT A GUARANTEE THAT YOU WILL BE CONTENT! THIS MEANS THAT EVEN IF WE HAVE A NICE HOUSE & CAR WE WILL BE HAPPY! NO! BECAUSE WAIT A LITTLE LONGER & YOU WILL CRAVE FOR A NICER HOUSE & A NICER CAR, ETC. ETC.

“Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually advanced the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard, and to everyone else, that my imprisonment is because I am in Christ. Most of the brothers have gained confidence in the Lord from my imprisonment and dare even more to speak the word[d] fearlessly.” (1: 12-14)

b) THE “PEOPLE” WHO ARE WITH YOU RIGHT NOW!

DID YOU KNOW THAT EVEN IN PRISON PAUL WAS BEING SLANDER BY HIS CO-PREACHERS OF THE GOSPEL? HE WAS WITH PRISONERS OR CRIMINALS EVEN THOUGH HIS ONLY CRIME IS PREACHING THE GOSPEL. BUT WHAT WAS PAINFUL I THINK WAS THE FACT THAT YOUR FELLOW WORKERS WHO ARE ENVIOUS OF HIM WAS TRYING TO CREATE MORE TROUBLE FOR HIM. BUT THIS DID NOT STOP PAUL TO HAVE JOY & CONTENTMENT. ON THE CONTRARY, THIS FURTHER ENCOURAGE HIM IN THE LORD.

“To be sure, some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of good will. These preach out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, thinking that they will cause me trouble in my imprisonment. What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice.” (1: 15-18)

FOR US, IT COULD OUR LOVED ONES/ FAMILY/SPOUSE/ CHILDREN /RELATIVES/CO-WORKERS/CHURCH MEMBERS) WHOM WE REGULARLY INTERACT WITH. THEY ARE PART OF OUR “CIRCUMSTANCES”! WE HAPPEN TO KNOW THEM & BE WITH THEM!

c) THE “PHASE” OF YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW!

PAUL AS BELIEVED BY MOST SCHOLARS WAS NEARING HIS DEATH WHEN HE WROTE THESE PRISON LETTERS. IN FACT, WE KIND OF SENSE THIS FOREBODING OF PAUL WHEN HE WROTE THESE WORDS,

“My eager expectation and hope is that I will not be ashamed about anything, but that now as always, with all courage, Christ will be highly honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.” (1: 20-21)

YET EVEN HE KNOWS THAT HIS DAYS WERE NUMBERED YET HE WAS JOY & CONTENT. SOME TODAY ARE AFRAID OF BECOMING SENIORS OR OF GETTING RETIRED. THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES. BUT IF YOU ARE IN CHRIST, THERE IS A LOT TO DO FOR THEIR KINGDOM. WE CAN STILL BE PRODUCTIVE IN CHRIST IF WE WILL ONLY BE CONTENT IN OUR CIRCUMSTANCES.

d) THE “STATE/SETTING” OF TIMES YOU LIVE RIGHT NOW!

AS FOR PAUL'S STATE OF LIFE, IT WAS CLEARLY A DIFFICULT STATE LOGICALLY SPEAKING. HE IS NOT JUST IN A LOCKDOWN, HE WAS ALONE & ISOLATED FROM LOVED ONES & FRIENDS & CHURCHMATES. IT WAS JUST NORMAL TO BE SAD OR DEPRESSED ABOUT THAT. DEFINITELY HIS “CIRCUMSTANCES” WERE NOT GOOD BUT DEPRESSING & DISTRESSFUL BUT PAUL CHOSE NOT TO BE DEPRESSED OR ANGRY OR BITTER ABOUT IT. INSTEAD, HE CHOSE TO BE JOYFUL & TO BE CONTENT!

THIS BEHAVIOR OF PAUL DESTROYS THE IDEA THAT IF WE COULD JUST HAVE A NICE SPOUSE, A NICE HOUSE & CAR, A NICE AMOUNT OF MONEY, A NICE JOB, A NICE VACATION TOUR, A NICE IN LAWS & FRIENDS, WE WILL BE HAPPY & CONTENT! BUT THIS JUST A MAKE BELIEVE! SOME GOT TO HAVE THESE THINGS BUT STILL COMPLAIN THAT THEY ARE NOT HAPPY & CONTENT!

ILLUSTRATION: ALEXANDER THE GREAT!

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your graciousness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” (4: 5-7)

THEREFORE, AS BELIEVERS & FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST, WE SHOULD NOT ALLOW OUR CIRCUMSTANCES TO DICTATE THE KIND OF LIFE WE ARE GOING TO LIVE! BUT RATHER, IN WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCE, LET US CHOOSE TO LIVE THE LIFE THE LORD INTENDED US TO LIVE! AND THIS LEADS US TO OUR NEXT POINT...

B. WHAT GODLY CONTENTMENT IS ALL ABOUT!

BEFORE WE FINALLY LEAVE OUR FIRST POINT, LET ME CLARIFY A VERY IMPORTANT POINT – THE APOSTLE PAUL IS NOT TEACHING US TO BE LAZY OR NOT TO ASPIRE OR DESIRE TO IMPROVE OR SUCCEED IN LIFE OR WHAT WE DO. TAKE NOTE THAT HE IS TEACHING US TO BE CONTENT “IN” OUR PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCE & NOT “WITH” IT! IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE IS BAD IT’S OKAY NOT TO BE CONTENT WITH IT IF WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY & MEANS TO CHANGE IT (LIKE A JOB) BUT FOR THE MEAN TIME, THE LORD WANTS US TO BE CONTENT IN IT & BY JOYFUL & THRIVE INSPIRE OF IT!

NOW, THE FIRST THING THAT WE KNOW ABOUT GODLY CONTENTMENT IS THAT IT IS NOT AUTOMATIC...

1) Godly contentment is not automatic but can be learned!

In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content—whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need.” (v. 12)

IN OTHER WORDS, LIKE JOY OR LOVE OR PEACE OR ANY OF THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT, WE HAVE TO CULTIVATE THIS MINDSET OR ATTITUDE OF OUR MIND & HEART & STRENGTHEN IT IN OUR LIFE. IT IS LIKE A SEED. WE MUST CULTIVATE IT TO GROW & BE STRONG!

2) Godly contentment is possible only through the Lord Jesus Christ!

“I am able to do all things through him who strengthens me.”
(v. 13)

NOW, GODLY CONTENTMENT IS A RESULT & POSSIBLE ONLY BECAUSE OF OUR UNION WITH CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD! (SEE v. 13). WE KNOW THAT THE “HIM” HERE REFERS TO THE LORD BECAUSE HE WAS ACTUALLY THE SUBJECT OF THIS WHOLE TALK OF PAUL (SEE VERSE 10). THE REASON PAUL COULD LIVE THIS JOYFUL & CONTENTED LIFE INSPITE OF HIS HARD CIRCUMSTANCE OR SITUATION IS BECAUSE OF THE LORD WHO GIVES HIM STRENGTH (DUNAMIS)!

THE WORD “STRENGTH HERE IS THE SAME ROOT WORD WITH “POWER.” THIS REMINDS US OF THE “POWER”/DUNAMIS OF THE GOSPEL IN ROM. 1:16. THIS ABILITY OR POWER TO LIVE CONTENTED LIFE IS BECAUSE OF THE “DUNAMIS” OF GOD WORKING IN US.

NOW, WHERE DID THIS POWER CAME FROM? IT CAME FROM THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST! HIS GRACE DID NOT ONLY PARDON FROM OUR SINS – HE HAS FORGIVEN ALL OUR SINS BUT HIS GRACE ALSO GAVE US POWER TO RESIST & OVERCOME SIN & LIVE VICTORIOUS/OVERCOMING LIVES.

SO, WHEN PAUL SAYS, “I CAN DO ALL THINGS...” HE MEANS HE CAN LIVE A JOYFUL & CONTENTED LIFE EVEN IN THE FACE OF A DIFFICULT TRIAL OR TROUBLE OR CRISIS! THIS TEXT IS NOT A TICKET TO PROSPERITY OR HEALTH OR HAPPINESS AS SOME PROSPERITY PREACHER ARE MISTAKENLY APPLYING THIS VERSE. THE CONTEXT IS CLEAR – CHRIST’S POWER WILL ENABLE US TO LIVE EXTRAORDINARY, VICTORIOUS LIVES IN SPITE OF ADVERSITIES OR TRIALS OR CRISIS LIFE BRINGS US.

“For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift— not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.” (Eph. 2: 8-10)

“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, instructing us to deny godlessness and worldly lusts and to live in a sensible, righteous, and godly way in the present age, while

we wait for the blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.” (Titus 2: 11-13)

HOW WAS THIS POSSIBLE? THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. FOR PART OF THE PACKAGE OF SALVATION IN CHRIST IS THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

*“Because you are his sons, **God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts**, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” (Gal. 4: 6)*

AND THIS HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SOURCE OF OUR POWER TO LIVE THE VICTORIOUS & OVERCOMING LIFE!

*“**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you;** and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)*

❖ **THEREFORE, THE LORD’S GRACE DOES NOT ONLY PARDON US FROM OUR SINS (HE HAS FORGIVEN ALL OUR SINS!), BUT IT ALSO GIVES US THE POWER TO LIVE VICTORIOUS & OVERCOMING LIVES IN THIS LIFE!**

❖ **AND THIS POWER SUPPLIES THE LORD’S PEOPLE THIS JOYFUL MINDSET OR ATTITUDE THAT ENABLES THEM TO LIVE JOYFUL & CONTENTED LIVES WHAT- EVER MAYBE THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES IN LIFE!**

THEREFORE, IF CONTENTMENT IS LIKE JOY AND IS SOMETHING THAT WE CAN LEARN OR DEVELOP IN LIFE, THEN HOW CAN WE LEARN IT?

*****HOW TO LEARN GODLY CONTENTMENT:**

BY STUDYING CLOSELY THE TEXT, v. 13, WE LEARN THAT THE PHRASE “ALL THINGS” DOES NOT MEAN “ANYTHING W/O EXCEPTION” BUT “ANYTHING THAT WE THINK OR DEEM HARD OR VERY DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE TO DO AS A BELIEVERS.” AGAIN, THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT IS THE KEY TO UNDERSTAND PAUL’S THINKING. AND HE WAS REFERRING TO HIS PREVIOUS DISCUSSION

OF THE THINGS THAT HE DID WHICH HE DECLARED HE WAS ABLE TO DO BECAUSE OF CHRIST'S STRENGTH! AND I THINK THESE ARE ALSO THE KEYS TO LEARN THE SECRET OF GODLY CONTENTMENT.

*(1) BY BEING ALWAYS **THANKFUL** & **JOYFUL** ATTITUDE IN WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCE THAT YOU ARE IN!*

PAUL TAUGHT US TO REJOICE & BE THANKFUL IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES! (1 Thess. 5: 19; Phil. 4:4)

*(2) BY DISCIPLINING OURSELVES IN **DRAWING NEAR** TO THE FATHER THROUGH **PRAYER**!*

PAUL SHOWED US THIS TRUTH IN THIS LETTER. WHEN WE ARE FACING A PROBLEM OR TRIAL OR CRISIS LIKE COVID-19, OUR TENDENCY IS TO ANXIOUS OR WORRIED. WHY? WE ARE NOT HAPPY OR SATISFIED OR DISCONTENTED ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US. SO PAUL, TEACHES HERE IN FACT, TO MAKE PRAYER OUR FIRST RESORT INSTEAD OF LAST RESORT! SO, WHEN WE ARE FEELING DISCONTENTED, LET DRAW NEAR TO THE LORD & PRAY! REMEMBER THAT DISCONTENTMENT IS SOMETHING THT THE DEVIL CAN USE TO DERAIL OR DUSRUPT OUR WALK WITH THE LORD! SO WE HAVE TO KNOW THE WORD TO COUNTER HIS ATTACKS/TSC TICS. FELLOWSHIP OR CHURCH LIFE IS ANOTHER DISCIPLINE THAT WE ARE NOT TO NEGLECT AS COMMANDED BY HEBREWS 10: 25. BEING A PART OF A HEALTHY SMALL GROUP GIVE US THE SPIRUTAL SUPPORT THAT WE NEED TO FIGHT WITH OUR ENEMIES INCLUDING THE SPIRIT OF DISCONTENT. BEING ACCOUNTABLE TO ONE ANOTHER IS GOOD TO OUR SOULS!

*(3) BY **TAKING CARE** OF OUR **THOUGHT LIFE**! & **TAKING CAPTIVE** EVERY **DISOBEDIENT THOUGHT** TO CHRIST!*

A DISOBEDIENT THOUGHT IS A DISCONTENTED THOUGHT! THE DEVIL SUGGEST IDEAS/THOUGHTS TO DISTRACT OR MAKE US DOUBT GOD'S WISDOM & GOODNESS. SO, PAUL EXHORTS US TO LET OUR MIND DWELL ON TRUTHFUL & PURE THINGS! (v. 8)

**(4) BY BEING FAITHFUL TO THE LORD & HIS
GOSPEL WORK IN SPITE OF OPPOSITION, HARDSHIPS, &
PERSECUTIONS!**

“In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content—whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need.” (v. 12)

*“And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.”
(Heb. 12: 2)*

LISTEN HERE CHURCH! FRIENDS! THIS FEELING OR SPIRIT OF DISCONTENT USUALLY COMES TO US WHEN WE ARE BORED OR RESTLESS. WE CAN EXPERIENCED THIS SPIRIT WHEN YOU FACING HARDSHIPS OR ADVERSITIES OR CRISIS AS WELL AS WHEN YOU ARE EXPERIENCING PLENTY OR PROPERITY (REMEMBER THE RICH FOOL IN THE PARABLE OF JESUS).

WHY? BECAUSE MAN HAS THAT “ETERNAL VOID” IN OUR HEART THAT WE ALREADY DISCOVERED & LEARNED COULD NEVER BE CONTENT BY PURSUING THE PLACES IN THIS WORLD, OR POSITION OR POSSESSIONS OR PLEASURE OR ANY PURSUIT IN THIS WORLD. THEY COULD NEVER TRULY FILL THE ETERNAL & GOD-SHAPED VOID THAT IS IN OUR HEART.

HAVE YOU EVER WONDER WHY WHY WE ARE COMMANDED TO FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS OR SET OUR HEARTS & MINDS ON THE THINGS ABOVE & NOT ON THE THINGS BELOW (Col. 3:1)? BECAUSE ONLY PURSUING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST & THE THINGS OF THE LORD OR ABOVE CAN FILL THAT VOID IN OUR HEART! ONLY THE LORD & HIS WORK CAN TRULY GIVES US LASTING JOY & CONTENTMENT! THAT’S THE REASON BEHIND AUGUSTINE’S WORDS, “MAN IS RESTLESS UNTIL HE RESTS IN GOD!”

THEREFORE,

“THE MORE WE FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE MORE WE WILL BE CONTENTED/SATISFIED WITH HIM, AND THE MORE WE WILL BE CONTENT/SATISFIED WITH HIM, THE MORE HE IS GLORIFIED THROUGH US IN THIS LIFE!”

IN OTHER WORDS, THE MORE WE SEEK CONTENTMENT OUTSIDE OF CHRIST THE MORE WE MISS IT, THE MORE IT WILL ELUDE US. FOR TRUE & LASTING CONTENTMENT IS FOUND NOT IN THIS WORLD OR THE THINGS OF WORLD BUT ONLY IN CHRIST ALONE! GOD BLESS!

CLOSING CHALLENGE & PRAYER:

FROM OUR PASSAGE, WE LEARN THAT THE APOSTLE AS A BELIEVER IS NOT SELF-SUFFICIENT BUT CHRIST-SUFFICIENT; MEANING, HE IS NOT TRUSTING HIS OWN SUFFICIENCY BUT CHRIST IS SUFFICIENT FOR HIM. HE IS CONTENT IN & WITH CHRIST! CHRIST IS ENOUGH FOR HIM. HE IS NOT BANKING ON HIMSELF OR PEOPLE OR PLACES OR POSITION OR POSSESSIONS OR THINGS OF THIS WORLD TO MAKE HIM HAPPY & CONTENT. FOR PAUL, CHRIST IS SUFFICIENT. HE IS ENOUGH!

CHURCH, BROTHERS & SISTERS, FRIENDS! IS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST SUFFICIENT FOR YOU? IS HE ENOUGH FOR YOU? WHY THE ENDLESS PURSUIT OF THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD? SO, WHY ARE YOU ANXIOUS OR WORRIED OR FEARFUL OR RESTLESS? REMEMBER THAT THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD WILL NOT LAST & NOTHING IN THIS LIFE CAN TRULY FILL THAT VOID IN YOUR HEART BUT JESUS & HIS LOVE & FORGIVENESS FOR YOU BECAUSE HE ALONE IS ETERNAL & TRUE. HIS LOVE, HIS WISDOM THRU HIS WORD, HIS GOODNESS & GRACE & MERCY IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU! HE IS ENOUGH FOR YOU!

CLOSING PRAYER:

“OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, THANK YOU FOR THE LORD JESUS CHRIST THIS INDESCRIBABLE GIFT THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN US. THANK YOU THAT HE IS SUFFICIENT & ENOUGH FOR US -FOR ALL OUR NEEDS & ALL OUR SITUATIONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES. FATHER, THANK ALSO FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT, YOUR SPIRIT & THE

SPIRIT OF THE LORD JESUS WHOM YOU ALSO GAVE US TO BE OUR ASSURANCE OF OUR BLESSED & GLORIOUS FUTURE. BUT NOT ONLY OF A GLORIOUS FUTURE WHICH INCLUDES A NEW RESURRECTED BODY BUT A VICTORIOUS & OVERCOMING TODAY IN THE PRESENT. THANK YOU THAT THROUGH HIS POWER WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE JOYFUL MINDSET TO BE ABLE TO LIVE JOYFUL & CONTENTED LIFE HERE ON THIS SIN-SICK & TROUBLED WORLD.

THANK YOU FATHER GOD, THAT NO LOCKDOWN CAN STOP US FROM REJOICING & BEING JOYFUL BECAUSE WE HAVE YOU WITH US IN OUR LIFE. FORGIVE US LORD FOR ENTERTAINING THIS SPIRIT OF DISCONTENT IN OUR HEARTS DOUBTING YOUR WISDOM & GOODNESS IN ALLOWING THIS CRISIS & LOCKDOWN TO HAPPEN. TEACH ME TO GROW IN THE MIDST OF THIS CRISIS & TO DRAW NEAR YOU MORE & DISCIPLINE OURSELVES TO COMMUNE WITH YOU IN OUR SOLITUDE. TEACH US ALSO TO GROW IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR SPOUSE & CHILDREN NOW THAT YOU ARE GIVING US MORE TIME TO BE WITH THEM. TEACH US TO BE PATIENT & WAIT & NOT GO AHEAD OF YOU BUT TO TRUST YOU IN THE MIDST OF THIS PANDEMIC.

FATHER GOD, CONTINUE TO MOLD ME TO BE LIKE CHRIST TO HAVE HIS MINDSET & TO FIX MY EYES ON HIM & THE THINGS ABOVE & NOT THIS EARTH. CONTINUE TO TEACH ME TO MAKE CHRIST MY JOY MY SUFFICIENCY & MY ALL. FOR ALL THIS I PRAY IN THE MOST PRECIOUS NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST MY LORD. AMEN!!!