

**Community Group Growth Questions**

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday’s message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. What does it mean to be content? In 1 Tim. 6:6-10, how does Paul define contentment?
3. Why do you think God stipulates that contentment must be connected with godliness for great gain (v6)? In what ways is contentment related to the source of our provision? How is it related to gratitude?
4. In Philippians 4:10-13, Paul said he had learned to be content with both lack and abundance. How do we learn this lesson? What was Paul’s secret?
5. Discuss the problem with “desiring to be rich.” In what ways does it lead to ruin and destruction? Give examples.
6. Is wealth itself prohibited for the believer? Discuss Paul’s indictment against the love of money.

**Living on Mission**

1. Has your idea of contentment only been – “I have to learn to be happy with less”? Have you learned to also include gratitude for God’s current provision? Ask God to teach you the joy of contentment.
2. In what ways might contentment with what God has given you free you to be more generous to others? Will you? With whom?
3. Are you guilty of falling into the temptation of desiring to be rich? Has this sin brought destruction in your life? In what ways?
4. In what ways is the love of money a root of evil for you? Spend some time allowing God to examine your motives regarding wealth. How does He want you to respond?
5. Spend some time in confession and repentance. Ask God how to teach you to walk in the obedience of faith in the areas of contentment and wealth.

**This Week’s Reading:**

Monday: Philippians 4:10-13  
 Tuesday: Psalm 100  
 Wednesday: Ephesians 5:18-21  
 Thursday: Hebrews 13:5-6  
 Friday: Colossians 3:16-17  
 Saturday: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Ripple Report:**

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Acts 2:42

One of the clearest signs of God’s grace to the Church at Martinsburg has been in our community and fellowship. People are looking for genuine relationships and community. It’s by God’s grace that they are finding it here at C@M. On November 9th and 10th, C@M held it’s first Women’s Gathering which had over 50 women in attendance. New faces became family, relationships were made, and the gospel was changing lives. Carrie Mansfield (SocialWorkHeart) tweeted this week “Thankful for @denidorminy & @martinsburgch for sound doctrine and encouragement for growth in the lives of our ladies. #ripplereport.” This is just another example of the Lord’s working in C@M.



How is God working? Let us know by tagging your tweets with #ripplereport or sending them to ripple@martinsburgchurch.org!

**Welcome to the Church at Martinsburg!**

Whether this is your first time or your next time, whether you are a member or a first-time guest – we want to connect with you! Use the white card with this Loop to relay information to your church staff. Please complete the front so we can update our records and use the back to request information or share your prayer requests. As your pastors, we are honored to pray for and serve you.

**Pastor On Call:** If you have an emergency and need to get a hold of a pastor from Friday morning through Monday morning please call 304.616.9007 to reach The Church at Martinsburg’s Pastor on call.

**Media Team:** Looking for a place to serve? What about media? Contact Tim Wilkerson for more information at [tim@martinsburgchurch.org](mailto:tim@martinsburgchurch.org).

**Ripple Reports:** How is God at work in your community group, our church, and your life in general? Let us know with this hashtag: #ripplereport

**India Team:** Heading out on December 11<sup>th</sup>! Please be praying for these people as they prepare to share the Gospel in Kolkata and the surrounding areas.

- **Provision** for the team’s needs.
- **Protection** as they travel.
- **Personal holiness** of the team members as they prepare.
- **Power** as they preach the Gospel.

Team Leader

AJ Roberts

Team Participants

Lucas Dorminy	Kayla Dorminy	Nate Martin
Ashley Lavigne	Liz Lundberg	Christopher Gomes
Amber Knuckles	Cheree Roberts	

**Missions Booklet:** On your way out today, pick up a copy of “Until the Whole World Knows”. This booklet details how the Church at Martinsburg is involved in missions locally and globally.



**Miracle Offering**  
 Goal: \$15,000

\$7,000 – Int. Church Planting and Partnerships  
 \$4,000 – Local Church Planting  
 \$4,000 – Local Mission Partnerships

Please give using our Miracle Offering envelopes or designate your gift at [give.martinsburgchurch.org](http://give.martinsburgchurch.org)

**Missionary Toolbox: Contentment**

“Paul tells us that the Christian’s goal with respect to material things is *godliness with contentment*. *Godliness* in Paul’s vocabulary means the genuine Christian life, a faith-relationship with God and a new way of life. *Contentment* is a Pauline word in the New Testament (2 Cor 9:8; compare Phil 4:11). It had a prominent place in Stoic philosophy, where it defined an attitude of “self-sufficiency,” meaning detachment or independence from things or possessions. Contentment came from within. Paul approved of this idea but naturally supplied a Christian basis for it: “I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. . . . I can do everything through him who gives me strength” (Phil 4:11, 13). **Thus for Paul the Christian goal is a genuine relationship with God, our source of contentment, and a healthy detachment from material things.** This combination is *great gain*. In contrast to 6:5, *gain* here is measured according to spiritual rather than material value. Eternal benefits are surely promised, but the focus is on how the believer with this healthy perspective can avoid the many pitfalls of greed in the present life.” -- IVP New Testament Commentaries