

## **Word on Wednesday Bible Study**

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### **Trusting Completely – Philippians 4:10-12**

*The belief among churchgoers that God's desire for them is to be prosperous is gaining a stronger footing in today's world. In a recent study done by Lifeway Research, 76% of those attending church believe that God wants them to prosper financially. Many Christians believe in the prosperity gospel. Accompanying that belief is the thought that believers are to do something for God in exchange for His material blessing on our lives. Such belief does not square with the plain teaching of the Bible. To believe that God wants all His children to be healthy and wealthy flies in the face of biblical teaching. As we look at the faith journey of the Apostle Paul, over and over, he spoke of the hardships he went through: times of danger, injury, hunger, impoverishment, and more. In fact, Paul prayed for God to remove what he called "a thorn in the flesh," and God declined to do so. His life certainly is not a testimony to God wanting him to be healthy and wealthy! In today's lesson, we encounter a favorite Bible verse that speaks of the fact that God will supply all our needs through His riches in glory in Jesus Christ. Regardless of the situation we find ourselves in, we must realize that God does not promise prosperity in the worldly sense. Instead, He promises provision for our daily needs.*

#### **I. God's Provision Begins with \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 4:10-13)**

*"Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content." - Vs. 11*

#### **II. God's Provision Includes \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 4:14-17)**

*"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." 2 Cor. 9:6-8*

Through all \_\_\_\_\_, God is thus glorified (2 Cor. 9:10-13).

#### **III. God's Provision Arises from His \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 4:18-20)**

*Conclusion: May I encourage you to take your belief system from God's Word and realize that God has never promised us prosperity and perfect health. Think about the fact that the Jerusalem church was in such impoverished straits that Paul raised an offering for them twice (Acts 11:29; 2 Cor. 9:1). In addition, 100 percent of the people who Jesus healed during his earthly ministry later contracted some other disease or injury and died. God has not promised prosperity or health. Instead, He has promised His presence and His provision. Our challenge is to rest and rely in trust on Him to provide everything we need. He can absolutely be counted on to provide.*