

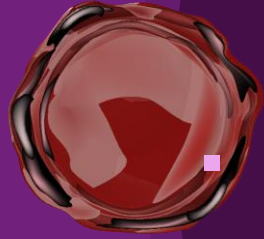
BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS SERIES:

Joy in Christ

Philippians 4:10-13

Walking in step with Christ

By Milton



- ¹¹ ... *for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.* ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.
- ¹² I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.
- ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength (Phil 4:10-13).

Paul's Secrets



- What did Jesus say about Paul when He first called him to serve?
- ¹⁵ ... He is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." (Acts 9:15)

Paul's Secrets

Do not!



Do not
compare
yourself to
others.



JA

Paul's Secrets

Do not!

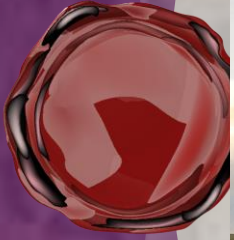


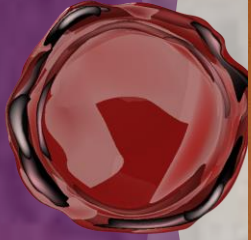
Do not seek
salvation in
anything
other than
Christ.

Discount Self-Help Books



My Testimony: The walk that changed my life.





"For we walk by faith, not by sight ."
(2 Corinthians 5:7).



Paul's Secrets

You will learn these secrets on your walk with Christ:



- The secret of thanksgiving
- The secret of the surrendered life
- The secret of rejoicing in the Lord
- Finally, the BIG secret!



Paul's Secret

- 1. The Secret of Thanksgiving
- Paul learned to give thanks. You see, there is **always** something to give God thanks for. Paul wrote in *Colossians 4:2*:
 - *² Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful **and thankful**.*
- In **John 6:11**, Jesus took five loaves of bread and 2 fishes, **gave thanks** and immediately - a miracle happened. He was able to feed **five thousand** people.
- But back to Paul: **How** exactly did Paul give thanks – are there **adjectives** that describe how Paul gave thanks?
- Well, in Psalm 9:1, it says:
 - *I will give thanks to you, LORD, **with all my heart**; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.*

Paul's Secrets



- *Giving thanks to God is powerful!*
- The Bible says in Psalm 92: 1-2
- *It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
And to sing praises to Your name, O Most
High;
² To declare Your loving kindness in the
morning,
And Your faithfulness every night,*



- 2. The Secret of the Surrendered Life
- *In Roman's 12:1, Paul wrote:*
- Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of **God's mercy**, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.
- Paul **chose** to make himself a living, breathing sacrifice to God, **giving up all his personal rights to himself**, in order to gain the biggest prize in the universe - **Christ Jesus**.
- Paul realised he could not be a living sacrifice unless he **died to self** on a daily basis **and put on more and more of Christ**.



3. The Secret of Rejoicing in the Lord

Paul learned to rejoice. In Philippians 4:4, he wrote: *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.* (There must be a reason why Paul mentioned rejoice **twice** in such a short sentence)

Why did Paul rejoice?

Nehemiah gives the game away. In Nehemiah 8:10, he said: ...*Do not grieve, **for the joy of the LORD is your strength.***”

Paul realised that he gained spiritual strength when he rejoiced in the Lord.



What is Paul's biggest Secret?

What is Paul's big secret which allows him to be content in every and all situations – in the whole spectrum of circumstances from being in need to having plenty.

- Paul's biggest secret is the recognition that **he couldn't do any of what he did alone. Paul had Christ.**
- Paul came to the **liberating** conclusion that: '**..I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me**'. (Phil 4:4).
- If you remember, I used my physical **walk** with my friend to illustrate Paul's spiritual **walk** with Jesus. That walk with **my** friend impacted my life. You too, like Paul can do all things through Christ, **who promises** to strengthen you whatever your challenge.



- Paul's big secret is his constant walk, companionship and dependence on Christ. He had built up a trusting, intimate, faithful relationship with the Lord.
- Therefore, Paul was never truly alone or afraid. Because Christ was – like my God-sent friend, who walked with me – Christ was always there beside Paul.
- From time to time, you **will** walk through the valley of the shadow of death. Don't despair, be comforted – you walk **through** it, you don't stay there. And Christ has promised He will walk with you to guide and protect you.

Walking with Christ - the road to Emmaus



Reflection:



- Don't always seek self-help. Seek Christ's help.
- Give thanks to the Lord... with all your heart – he deserves your thanks.
- Rejoice in the Lord; the joy of the Lord is your continual strength.
- Become a living sacrifice to the Lord:
Let it be: 'Not that you live', but it is Christ who lives within you – that is the way of victory.

