



**Spaces: Being Content in My Season
Paul's Response to His Spaces (Part 3)**

October 16, 2022

Series Question: How do you manage the changing seasons in your life?

Answer: Be Content

Text: Philippians 4:11-13

10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last, you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. **11** I am not saying this because I am in need, 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. **I have learned** the secret of being content in 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.

Summary: Paul warned us to be content no matter what our circumstances. The spaces in our lives will change, and we must learn how to embrace them. Sometimes they will be fulfilling, and sometimes they will feel empty and confusing.

I. Four Seasons We Must Manage

1. There is a learning season (This season teaches you)
2. There is a conviction season (This season develops a conviction about what satisfies)
3. There is a circumstantial season (This season puts you in various circumstances that hardens your views and convictions)
4. There is a **doing** season (This is a season you do it, “I can do all things through him...”)

II. Four Surprises from Each Season

1. The **Learning** Season: I was surprised by **how much** I did not know
2. The **Conviction** Season: I was surprised at **how satisfying** life could become if I learned well in the learning phase

3. The **Circumstantial** Season: I was surprised **how my life circumstances shaped my convictions for good and bad**
4. The **Doing** Season: I was surprised **how each phase I lived through has helped me** do things I never dreamed were possible.

Closing Question:

1. Are you rejecting the learning season in your life?
2. Are you chasing things that will not eventually satisfy you?
3. Are you learning from your life circumstances, or have you been ignoring them?
4. Are you able to do all the things you need to do in your life?

Note: Your life will never change if you don't embrace the learning seasons in your current circumstances.

Next Time: Managing a Boring Season (The Place Where Prosperity is Built)

- I made some wrong assumptions about being content in my life. I wanted to learn enough to reach a life of perfection and satisfaction at some point. Life continues to present me with challenging and sometimes boring circumstances.
- The boring seasons sometimes confuse me and leave me unsure of how to respond to them. This forces me back to a learning phase over and over again. I live going in and out of boring learning seasons. How do you manage these boring seasons? Let's talk about it next time.