

God

WE NEED YOU

Pray for the Strength of Christ

Philippians 4:13

Message Reflection Guide

The gospel is not a reform program for bad people; it is the liberating declaration of new life for those who have died. The new cannot come until the old has gone and on the cross the old went. Every manmade religion preaches self-denial and dying to self. The gospel simply declares: "You died."

- Paul Ellis, *The Gospel in Ten Words*

CONVERSATION STARTER

What are some Bible verses that are often taken out of context?

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

Read **Philippians 4:10-13**

Brandon said, "**Jesus's strength provides contentment on the mountain tops, in the valleys and through all the roads in between.**" When have you seen Jesus at work in the highs and lows of life and in between?

Jesus's strength brings contentment in times of abundance. You have an abundant NEW life available to you, if you are a believer. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What does this new life mean for you on this side of eternity?

Jesus's strength brings contentment in times of need. How has Jesus's strength provided you peace in times of need? Read Romans 6:4. How have you stumbled in the past, and how do you know God, your heavenly Father still loves you?

MAKING IT REAL

Is Jesus's strength your source of true joy, peace, and contentment? Are you relying on your own strength, the strength of another person, or something else? If you are relying on the strength of anything other than Jesus, it will fail you. Rely on the strength of Jesus alone to bring you true joy, peace, and contentment.