


The Secret

Philippians 4:10-13, 19-20; Luke 10:17,18,20

Adam Jones, February 27 & 28, 2016

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read Philippians 4:10-13 and 19-20. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 How would you complete the following sentence?
“My life would be so much better and I would be so much happier if I just had _____.”
- 2 What was your one big/main takeaway from the service? If someone had arrived as everyone was leaving, and they stopped you in the parking lot and asked, “What was the sermon about?” what would you have said?

THE SECRET: LEARNED IN PLENTY

- 3 *The problem with plenty.* How can having plenty actually be a burden and a challenge? The United States is both the wealthiest and the most discontent nation in the world. What should that teach us?
- 4 What is FOMO? Do you struggle with it? What agitates (worsens) your discontentment?

- 5 Is it wrong to have plenty? Is it wrong to be wealthy? Is it wrong to want to be wealthy?
- 6 *The antidote to plenty*. Discuss the following quote by non-Christian, Nicholas Kristof: "The most selfish thing you could do is serve others and give your money away."

THE SECRET: LEARNED IN WANT

- 7 Discontentment is often thought of as being upset about what you don't have. But actually, discontentment is also something else. What is it?
- 8 Why do you think the number one emotion in America right now is anger?
- 9 Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 and discuss the following quote by Charles Spurgeon.
Remember this, had any other condition been better for you than the one in which you are, divine love would have put you there. You are placed by God in the most suitable circumstances, and if you had the choosing of your lot, you would soon cry, "Lord, choose my inheritance for me, for by my self-will I am pierced through with many sorrows." Be content with such things as you have, since the Lord has ordered all things for your good. Take up your own daily cross; it is the burden best suited for your shoulder, and will prove most effective to make you perfect in every good word and work to the glory of God.

THE SECRET: HIS JOY

- 10 How do Luke 10:20 and Psalm 4:6-7 show us the secret to contentment?
- 11 What was the point of the illustration of the groom running down the isle to meet his bride?
- 12 How did this sermon play a role in what God has been teaching you thus far through the First Love campaign?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?