

Text: 1 Corinthians 7:20-24
Topic: Contentment. Suffering.
Study: First Corinthians
Week: 36
Series: 2 of 2

Focal Point Radio Ministries

August 2 & 3, 2003

Message # 03-23

Pastor Mike

Where You're Planted
Trusting God in a Stinky Field

part 2



1. You're _____ (vv.20-23a)

2. Be _____ (vv.21b, 23b)

3. Remember _____ (v.24)

1 Cor. 7:20-24

²⁰ Each one should remain in the situation which he was in when God called him. ²¹ Were you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you—although if you can gain your freedom, do so.

²² For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman;

similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave. ²³ You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

²⁴ Brothers, each man, as responsible to God, should remain in the situation God called him to. (NIV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. Read Numbers 14:1-4 and Philippians 2:14. In your own words craft a definition of *complaining*.

During the past week, when (and about what) did you complain?

2. What correlation do you find between your complaining and your neglect of time with God in prayer and personal Bible study? How do you explain such a correlation?

3. Read Romans 8:28-39. Give a subject heading to each of the following sections of this passage:

- vv.28-29 →

- v.30 →

- vv.31-39 →

How do each of these truths impact your perspective on a difficult situation in your life?

4. How can you utilize God's people to help you survive *and thrive* in your current station in life?

PCC is reading through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.

Sunday

Job 11-12 & Ps. 94-95

Monday

Job 13-14 & Ps. 96-97

Tuesday

Job 15-16 & Ps. 98-99

Wednesday

Job 17-18 & Ps. 100-101

Thursday

Job 19-20 & Ps. 102-103

Friday

Job 21-22 & Ps. 104-105

Saturday

Job 23-24 & Ps. 106-107

Here are some resources which may help you understand and implement the truths presented in this week's sermon.

Blomberg, Craig L. **Neither Poverty Nor Riches: A Biblical Theology of Possessions.** InterVarsity, 1999.

Bridges, Jerry. **Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts.** NavPress, 1988.

Finley, M. I. **Ancient Slavery and Modern Ideology.** Chatto & Windus, 1980.

Hammond, Pete, et al. **The Marketplace Annotated Bibliography: A Christian Guide to Books on Vocation.** IVP, 2002.

Harris, Murray J. **Slave of Christ: A New Testament Metaphor for Total Devotion to Christ.** InterVarsity, 2001.

Martin, Dale. **Slavery as Salvation: The Metaphor of Slavery in Pauline Christianity.** Yale Press, 1990.

Novak, Michael. **Business as a Calling: Work and the Examined Life.** The Free Press, 1996.

Sherman, Doug and William Hendricks. **Your Work Matters to God.** NavPress, 1987.

Swindoll, Charles. **Hope Again.** Word Publishing, 1996.

Williams, David. **Paul's Metaphors: Their Context and Character.** Hendrickson Publishers, 1999.

Youssef, Michael. **If God is In Control Why is My Life Such a Mess?** Thomas Nelson, 1998.

Zigarelli, Michael. **Faith at Work: Overcoming the Obstacles of Being Like Christ in the Workplace.** Moody Press, 2000.