

From **Want** To **Wonder**

Philippians 4:10-20

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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 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.

¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. ¹⁷ Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen

Journey from Want to Wonder

01

Want

A State of Lack
(v.12-13)

02

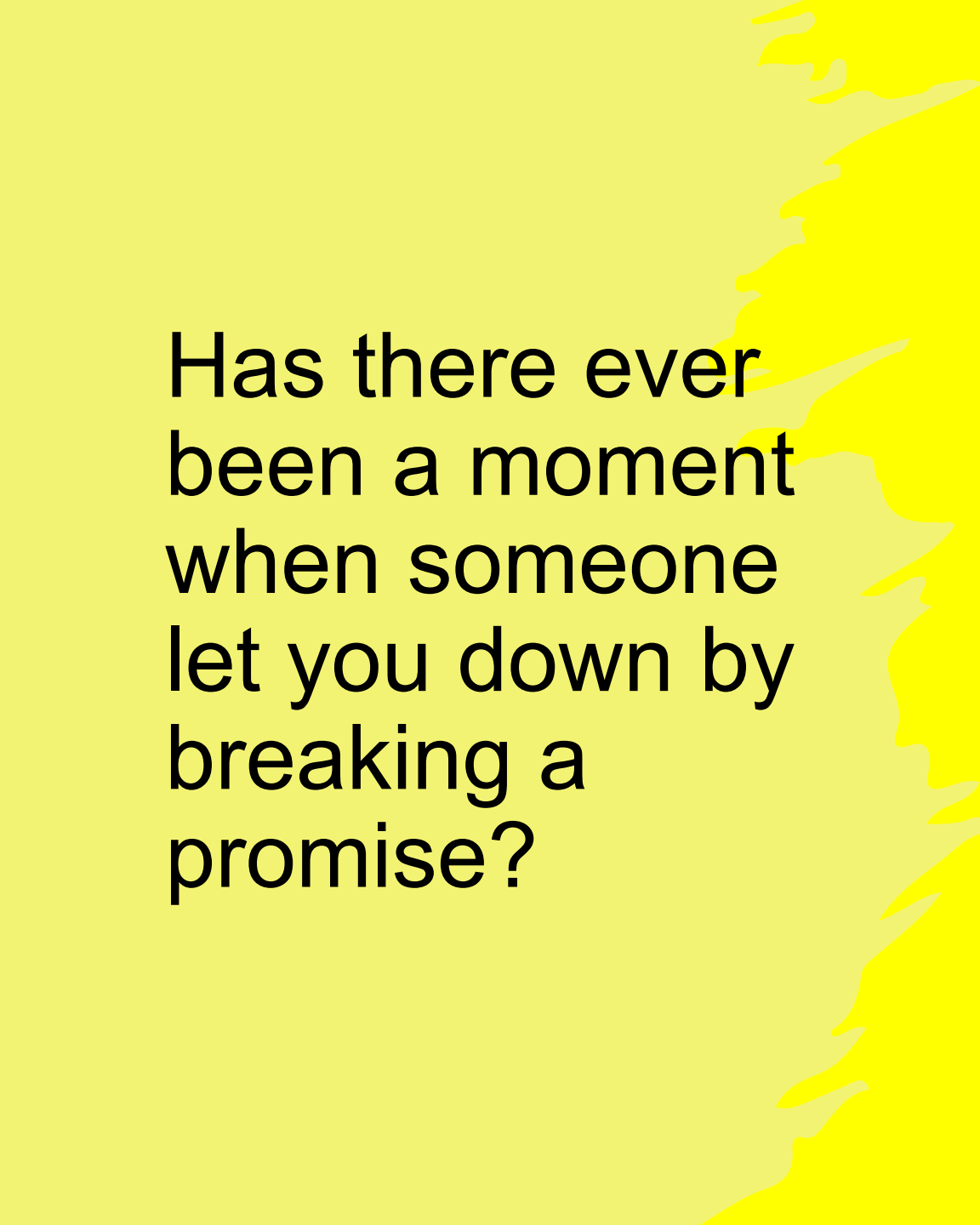
Worship

A State of
Reverence
(v. 14-18)

03

Wonder

A State of Awe
(v. 19-20)



Has there ever
been a moment
when someone
let you down by
breaking a
promise?

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.

I. WANT

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. WANT

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.

GIFTS

The Secret of Contentment

G – **GRATEFUL** for what I have

I – **INNER STATE** – unaffected by external circumstances

F – **FREEDOM** from the tyranny of wanting more

T – **TRUSTING** in God's provision

S – **SATISFIED** possessing an inner sense of abundance

I. WANT

¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

II. WORSHIP

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II. WORSHIP

¹⁷ Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.

II. WORSHIP

¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

III. WONDER

¹⁹ And my God will meet **all your needs** according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Summary

- Paul invites us to a TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY from WANT to WONDER
- The journey begins by learning the secret of CONTENTMENT, freeing us from the tyranny of always wanting more.
- The journey unfolds into the practice of Godly PARTNERSHIP (koinonia), from receiving into giving and from transacting into WORSHIPPING.
- The journey culminates in TRUSTING GOD as THE ONE who supplies all our needs.

REFLECTION

1. What does contentment look like in your life right now? Are there areas where you struggle to feel satisfied?
2. How have you experienced God's provision in times of need or abundance?
3. Can you recall a moment when someone's generosity deeply impacted you? How did it shape your view of community?