



# A NEW ADVENTURE

## Small Group Questions Week 2

1. If you had an unlimited amount of money, what would you do or what would you get that you do not have now? Do you think it would make you happier? If having a lot of money brings happiness, who would be the happiest people on earth? Is it true that they are the happiest people?

*Answer – The happiest people on earth would be the wealthiest people on earth, yet many wealthy people are miserable. When you read the stories of people who won big in the lottery, many of them wind up miserable because of having a lot of money.*

2. Read Matthew 6:24. What do you think it means to serve money rather than God? How can a person know if they are serving God or serving money?
3. Read Matthew 6:25-34. In describing how God feeds the birds and dresses the flowers of the field, Jesus said that the flowers are better dressed than Solomon in all his glory. Who was Solomon? Read 2 Chronicles 1:10-12. What did God do for Solomon? Why? How do you think someone in Solomon's position dressed? How could God say that a flower in the field was better dressed than Solomon? What should we learn from this?

*Answer—Solomon was the richest man who has ever lived on earth because of God's blessing on his life. He was a king and dressed in the finest clothing available. A flower, in God's sight, is dressed better because it lives in complete and total dependence upon God. We need to learn that what is beautiful to God is how much faith and dependence we have on Him, not what we wear or own.*

Read Philippians 4:10-19 to answer the following questions.

4. What had the Philippians done that Paul thanked them for? In verses 18 and 19, how did Paul describe their gift to him? What do you think this means? What did Paul say God would do for them because of this gift? What do you think we would need to do in order to claim the promise that God will supply all of our needs?



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5. In verses 11 and 12, Paul says he had learned a secret to life, what was it? What does he say made it possible for him to be this way? What is contentment? Is it the same as happiness, and if not, what is the difference?

*Answer—Paul says that whatever financial circumstances he was in at any given time, poor or rich, he had learned to be content. He says the secret was that he found his contentment in the strength that God gave him to do everything. Contentment and happiness are not the same. Happiness is an emotional response to whatever circumstances we are going through at any given time. Contentment is the knowledge that no matter what the circumstances, everything will be okay because God is in control.*

6. What would need to happen in your life for you to always be content? What role does being willing to give of your money to God play in being content?

*The only way to have true contentment in life is to live in dependence on God. If God is in control, we can know that no matter our circumstances, God will cause it to come out for our good (read Romans 8:28). We demonstrate that we are relying on God when we give of our money, and God says he will bless us if we give, he will provide for all of our needs. If we are not willing to be obedient in this area of our lives, then there is no promise from God that all of our needs will be provided, hence no contentment.*