



FINANCIAL CONNECTION

It is the goal of the OroNaz Finance Team to keep this church family updated on our financial blessings and challenges. Through this expanded Financial Connection we share biblical teachings that direct the decisions made by the CLT and we hope you can find application to your life as well.

This week we will take a look at what the Bible says about *contentment*.

Multiple books of the New Testament were authored by Apostle Paul as he traveled as a missionary spreading the good news of Christ. In Philippians 4:11-13, Paul wrote, *"...for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 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. I can do all this through him who gives me strength."*

When Paul writes *"I can do all this..."*, it appears he is referring to living in plenty or in want. However, *'this'* could also be more general: his life as a missionary. Even though not many of us have been long term missionaries, we can imagine the emotional rollercoaster that Paul must have experienced in his years traveling the Mediterranean; what it is to be in need, what it is to have plenty, or what it is to be in want. But how do we find the secret of being *content* in any and every situation? Could it be as simple as knowing who is supplying Paul's strength? Perhaps, but not entirely.

In another of his writings, Paul describes his perspective on his life as a missionary in Acts 20:24: *"However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and to complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace."*

Paul tells us the secret of being *content* does not depend on our circumstances; it depends on the purpose God has placed on each and every one of us. When we identify that purpose, live it out to the best of our earthly abilities, and depend on the one who gives us the strength, we can be *content*.

Personal *contentment* and financial *contentment* go hand in hand. If you are focused on trying to “keep up with the Joneses” or you are caught in a vicious cycle of financial comparison to those around you, there will never be personal or financial *contentment* in your life. Stop comparing and competing with others; instead be more mindful of your financial situation. Identify what matters to you and seek biblical counsel to develop a Christ-centered financial plan to meet your goals. And most importantly, rely on the one who supplies our strength by praying for wisdom as you handle your personal finances and seek God’s purpose for your life.

Thank you OroNaz family for your continued faithfulness: it is a testament to what God is doing in us and through us. If you ever have questions about finances, feel free to reach out to us at finances@oronaz.org.

September is the 7th month of the annual budget year that runs March 2023 to February 2024. Please pray and/or give as God leads.

Projected budget March 2023-February 2024:	\$730,070
Needed for Essentials –September 2023	\$53,625
Needed for Other Exp. - September 2023	\$ 7,214
Giving for September 2023	\$50,853
Expenses paid in September 2023	\$57,510
Needed Year to Date	\$425,874
Giving Year to Date	\$457,017
Expenses Paid Year to Date	\$416,951

Shares for Others Paid Year to Date	
World Evangelism Fund	\$24,641
Pensions & Benefits	\$9,958
Education	\$9,958
District Ministries	\$17,703