

SERMON STARTERS

**“CHRIST, THE CENTER OF THE CHRISTIAN’S LIFE”
Philippians 4**

On his second missionary journey, Paul visited Philippi, Acts 16. His ministry there resulted in several persons who came to faith in Christ Jesus as Savior. Among these were Lydia and her family and the Philippian jailer and his family. A local church was established and the church helped Paul in different ways on several occasions. This letter was written to acknowledge their help and to encourage them to become more Christ centered.

CHRIST, THE STIMULUS FOR THE CHRISTIAN’S CONDUCT. 4:1-4

- a. Be Harmonious. vs. 1-2
- b. Be Helpful. v.3
- c. He Happy. v.4

CHRIST, THE SUFFICIENCY FOR THE CHRISTIAN’S CARE. 4:5-7

- a. We have the presence of the Lord. v.5b
- b. We have prayer to the Lord. v.6
- c. We have the peace of the Lord. v.7

CHRIST, THE STANDARD FOR THE CHRISTIAN’S CONCENTRATION. 4:8-9

- a. Things preferred. v.8
- b. Things perceived. v.9a
- c. Things practiced. V.9b (“do”)

CHRIST, THE STRENGTH FOR THE CHRISTIAN’S CONTENTMENT. 4:10-13

Paul learned to:

- a. Appreciate the expressions of love. v.10
- b. Adjust to the experiences of living. v.11
- c. Accept the extremes of life. v.12
- d. Apply the energy of the Lord. v.13

CHRIST, THE SUPPLY FOR THE CHRISTIAN’S COMFORT. 4:14-19 (see “affliction” v.14)

- a. The congregation he recognizes. vs.14-15
- b. The commendation he renders. vs.15b-17
- c. The contribution he received. v.18
- d. The confirmation he records. v.19

Conclusion:

Is Christ central in your life? Does your life orbit around Him, the Sun in your sky?

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