



**SERIES: Philippians (May / June) “Finding Joy in the Journey”**

**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**

**Tuesday, June 29, 2021**

**Scripture: Philippians 4:18-19**

**NC0189**

**TITLE: You Can Never Outgive God**

What would you say to me if you were at my home for dinner? You desired a nice, marbled ribeye with a twice-baked potato, and some bacon-wrapped asparagus, and I said, “Don’t worry about it. I got ya’ covered.” I go to the kitchen. You hear me banging around there, and I come through the doors and put down your plate. On it was a cracker, a piece of celery, and a Ding-Dong. What would you feel? What would you say?

I’ll be honest, I’m a foodie, so I’d probably throw the plate across the room, and walk out the door. But if Paul would have been there, his reaction would have been remarkably different. Let’s turn back to Philippians 4:18-19 (ESV):

“I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

Paul has been talking now for quite some time about a mind focused on truth. Well, the truth is God is good and the provider of all of our needs. When Paul focused on God’s goodness and the adequate provision for his needs, he was content. That’s why Paul says here, “I am well supplied by your gifts.” “Well-supplied” has the idea of overflowing. It’s like someone refilling your ice tea and just keeps pouring, and pouring, and pouring, as it spills over.

When the Philippian church gave freely, regardless of the amount, it was an acceptable offering that brought God pleasure. You see, we don’t know if Paul received \$1 or \$100. To Paul, it was what he needed. Sure, he may have wanted the Double Cheeseburger combo meal, but ended up with a Kiddie Meal. He didn’t care. He was thankful. He was content. It was about their motives and his heart.

Then Paul gives the secret to continuous giving: **God will supply all of your needs.** In other words, you can’t outgive God. Let me say that again: you cannot outgive God.

God holds all the resources, so when we give 5, 10, 20% of our resources, God knows what we need. He will refill the bucket accordingly. Now, I did not say if you give 10, God gives 10 back. But He will provide what we need. I practice it. I experience it. I want you to as well.

So here’s my challenge for you: Trim and give.

Many people will say, “I can’t give any money away to my church or your ministry. I just don’t have the margin.” The problem isn’t a lack of resources, usually. It’s a lack of stewardship and self-discipline. So, look at your spending, and find just one thing you can reduce or remove, so you can give joyfully to God’s Kingdom.

I have seen in my own life that when I live within my needs and give generously, God provides abundantly. You can never outgive God, but try it, and then see the blessings grow.