Potential Discussion Questions Message: Engage JOY, Pt 26 (11-5-17) The Joy of Contentment (Phil. 4:10-14)

- 1. How would you rate your overall contentment on a scale of 1 to 10? Where are you most content? least content?
- 2. How do you discern when discontent is healthy or unhealthy? Where do you see healthy discontent in yourself? What drives unhealthy discontent in you and how do you overcome it?
- 3. How do you relate to the idea that contentment liberates joyful giving and receiving? How have you experienced this or struggled with it?
- 4. Perhaps the greatest challenge most people face is finding contentment in difficult circumstances. How does Paul address this? What do you learn or how are you encouraged by his perspective?
- 5. Do you have any loves in your life that are fomenting discontentment? How about false or inadequate sources of help? Reread Hebrews 13:5-6 and discuss the insight it gives.
- 6. Share a time when you discovered contentment in a difficult circumstance. What was the situation? What was the battle like getting to contentment? How did you process it to contentment?
- 7. What do you think are the broad areas that lead most people toward or into discontentment? Why do you think these are the major issues? What does our study offer to people battling discontentment?
- 8. What is the significance of Paul's statement that he has "learned" contentment? What clues does he give to how he learned this? (also look at 2 Cor. 12:8-10)
- 9. Verse 13 frequently gets pulled from context and over-applied. How does this study impact your understanding and application of this verse?
- 10. How might this study impact you the next time you feel contentment compromised or absent?
- 11. What is your best take-away from this study? How would you like others to pray for you in regard to this text?