Philippians 4:1-9ⁱⁱⁱ

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

■ About Philippians 4:1-9

In closing his letter, Paul expresses his appreciation for the community's generosity in supporting his ministry. Apparently they had sent Paul certain gifts, presumably including money. God enables Paul to remain content in every situation. Paul's contentedness derives from God, the source of his strength. Paul joyfully accepts the provision of the Philippians, for their need then provides another opportunity for God to demonstrate generosity.