

## “Be” Content

We live in a world of stuff!!! We have more stuff than we know what to do with, so we rent storage units to store all our stuff. So many things in our world are centered around discontentment. You need new and better, you need this additional gadget to make you happy. Why then do we live in an unhappy world filled with discontent people? What is the heart of the issue? What does God want us to “be”?

*I have to admit to you that this is a hard lesson for me to talk about because this is something I really struggle with. I am not where I need to be with being content!! God is still working on me.*

*I will have to tell you a story about contentment in my life. For 4 years Jesica and I looked for a house to buy. We couldn't afford anything or at least any houses we were interested in. On the way home from a wedding Jesica and I were talking and I came to the conclusion that maybe we should just be content where we were and not spend so much time looking and just enjoy where God had put us until something fell into our laps. It was a rental house and it was ok but not perfect for our growing family and we grumbled to ourselves a lot. (Looking back we were extremely blessed by that house!) We decided together that we were not going to complain any longer but just be content with where God had put us. As was my custom we stopped in Hays and grabbed a Sunday paper. We got home and as always I looked through the houses for sale. I read the description of what sounded like the perfect place for us. I said to Jes “Do I even call, they are going to want 6x our price and we will be disappointed again”. She encouraged me to call and just ask. I called and talked to the guy and he told me the price – I couldn't believe it! It was in our price range. I asked how long it had been advertised and he said 3 weeks. I always read the houses for sale section and for three weeks I didn't see that ad until we had decided to be content.*

**1 Timothy 6:6-10 But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup>But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup>People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.**

**What brings great gain?**

**Why do we spend so much time going after things that we can't take with us? We are going to take nothing out of the world yet many of our pursuits are things we want that we can't take with us.**

**How do we become discontent?**

**What is the danger of discontentment?**

**Is there an area where you have told God or implied by your complaining that what God has given you is insufficient?**

**When is enough, enough?**

**If we are not content then what is that saying to God?**

**This talks about discontentment with not having enough money – What do you find yourself being discontent with? Clothes, house, room, car, toys, talents, your place on the team, your position in a club ???**

**Hebrews 13:5** Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

"Never will I leave you;  
never will I forsake you."

Why do you think God wants us to be content with what we have?

**Philippians 4:10-13** I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. <sup>11</sup>I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Can we learn how to be content? Vs. 12

How could Paul say this? What was his secret to being content?

**1 John 2:17** The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

What does this verse have to do with being content?

What is really important and what is the reward?

**Proverbs 30:7-9**

<sup>7</sup> "Two things I ask of you, O LORD;  
do not refuse me before I die:

<sup>8</sup> Keep falsehood and lies far from me;  
give me neither poverty nor riches,  
but give me only my daily bread.

<sup>9</sup> Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you  
and say, 'Who is the LORD ?'  
Or I may become poor and steal,  
and so dishonor the name of my God.

Would you be content if you only had enough food for today?

*If you only had tomorrow what you thanked God for today what would you have?*

How can you learn to be more content this week and in the future?