

“Learning to be Content”

"There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world and we can take nothing out of it." 1 Timothy 6:6-7 (NRSV)

What is contentment? Contentment means my happiness is not dependent upon circumstances. Most people get caught in "when" thinking – "When I get such and such, then I'll be happy." "When I get to a certain level economically... When I get a certain job ... When I can retire ... then I'll be happy. When I get the house paid off... When I get the bills paid off... then!" God says "No, once you get there, you'll always want something else. You'll always want more." **Somebody once asked the billionaire Howard Hughes, "How much does it take to make a man happy?" He said, "Just a little more."** God says, "I want you to learn contentment." It's not about not having goals. It's saying **"My happiness is dependant upon the Lord not on my circumstances in life."**

Paul learned contentment. He says in **Philippians 4:12**, *"I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I've learned the secret of contentment in every situation."* **Contentment is something you have to learn. It's not something that comes naturally. I by nature, am naturally discontent. And so are you.**

How do you learn to be content?

1. By learning not compare.
2. By learning to be thankful for what you have.
3. By learning contentment doesn't come naturally.
4. By learning there is a difference between settling and being satisfied.
5. By learning contentment is God's plan for you.

God wants us to come to him and ask when we have a need and learn to be content, that our happiness isn't dependent on how much or how little we've got. If you don't learn contentment, you'll never be happy. You'll always want more.