

GROWING IN CONTENTMENT
Growing During The Holidays Part 2
#SermonContentment
Dr. Mark Jackson - November 26, 2017

Proverbs 14:30 It's healthy to be content, but envy can eat you up. (CEV)

Ecclesiastes 4:6 It is better to be content with what little you have. Otherwise, you will always be struggling for more... (ICB)

How Wanting More Can Impact Your Life

- It causes FATIGUE

Proverbs 23:4 Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint. (NIV)

- It causes DEBT

Ecclesiastes 5:11 The more you have, the more you spend, right up to the limits of your income. So what is the advantage of wealth—except perhaps to watch it as it runs through your fingers! (LB)

- It causes WORRY

Ecclesiastes 5:12 Workers may or may not have enough to eat, but at least they can get a good night's sleep. The rich, however, have so much that they stay awake worrying. (TEV)

- It causes CONFLICT

Proverbs 15:27 A greedy man brings trouble to his family... (NIV)

- It causes DISSATISFACTION

Ecclesiastes 5:10 If you love money, you will never be satisfied; if you long to be rich, you will never get all you want. It is useless. (TEV)

Philippians 4:12 I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of contentment in every situation, whether it be a full stomach or hunger, plenty or want. (LB)

How to Become More Content

1. ENJOY WHAT YOU HAVE

Ecclesiastes 5:19 If God gives us wealth and property and lets us enjoy them, we should be grateful and enjoy what we have... It is a gift from God. (TEV)

Ecclesiastes 4:8 I saw a person who... always worked hard. But he was never satisfied with what he had. He never asked himself, "...Why don't I let myself enjoy life?" This also is very sad and senseless. (ICB)

2. REMEMBER LIFE IS NOT ABOUT THINGS

Luke 12:15 Watch out and guard yourselves from every kind of greed; because your true life is not made up of the things you own, no matter how rich you may be. (TEV)

1 Timothy 6:6-7 Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it. (NRSV)

Ecclesiastes 6:6 Though a man lives a thousand years twice over but doesn't find contentment—well, what's the use? (LB)

Ecclesiastes 6:9b It is better to be satisfied with what you have than to be always wanting something else. (TEV)

3. FOCUS ON WHAT WILL LAST

2 Corinthians 4:18 For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever. (TEV)

Psalms 17:15 But as for me, my contentment is not in wealth but in seeing God and knowing all is well between us. And when I awake in heaven, I will be fully satisfied, for I will see him face to face. (LB)