

LIVING A *Blessed* LIFE

LIVING A BLESSED LIFE Part 3 – Be Focused On The Source Of True Contentment Matthew 5:6

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Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. (Jesus)

1. ALL OF US ARE TEMPTED TO WALK **FUTILE** PATHS TO FIND CONTENTMENT.

A. The word translated “fill” means to bring to full **contentment**.

B. Think about some of the messages we have received growing up:

1. “Happy are those who seek after **success**, for they shall be satisfied.”

Tom Landry was one of the most successful NFL football coaches to ever be in the game. He kept a slogan prominently displayed in the Cowboy's locker room:

a. “The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to his commitment to excellence.” (Tom Landry)

“I learned what Augustine meant when he said, ‘Our hearts are restless, O God, until they find their rest in **Thee**.’ (Tom Landry)

b. Doing our best in everything we do is a Biblical principle. (Colossians 3:23) But, when outward success becomes the **primary** goal of your life, it will always leave you **empty**.

I saw this quote from Albert Einstein

c. “Try not to become a man of success, but rather, try to become a man of value.” (Albert Einstein)

2. “Happy are those who seek after **pleasure**, for they shall be satisfied.”

Pleasure without **character** always ends in pain and emptiness.

2. THERE ARE INGREDIENTS TO GENUINE SATISFACTION AND WE CAN HAVE **ALL** OF THEM.

A. Contentment comes by pursuing **God**. (Matthew 5:6)

1. *Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*
2. We were made to **know** God.
3. *Psalm 63:1 O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul **thirsts** for You, my body longs for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*
4. *Psalm 42:1-2 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. ² My soul **thirsts** for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?*
5. *John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." (Jesus)*
6. We continue to pursue God through spending time with Him. Have a quiet time. Spend time in His Word listening to Him talk to you. Spend time talking to Him. Then, **obey** what He tells us to do through His Word. God will **never** contradict His Word.

B. Contentment comes by pursuing what God **wants**.

1. *Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those whose greatest desire is to do what God **requires**; God will satisfy them fully*
2. To pursue what God wants requires two things:
 1. That we love **God** and do those things that demonstrate it.
 2. That we love **others** and do those things that demonstrate it.
3. Self-centered people are **never** happy long-term. If our life is all about us we will never truly grow up and we will never obtain deep abiding joy.

C. Contentment requires us to be at peace with what God has **given** us.

1. The greatest enemy to contentment is **comparison**.
 - a. The fastest way to kill something special is to compare it to something else.
 - b. Where comparison begins contentment **ends**.
 - c. In social media we are comparing our "behind the scenes" with everyone else' **highlight** reels.

2. Contentment requires us to be at peace with the level of **provisions** God has provided for us.

a. *I Timothy 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.*

b. *Philippians 4:11-12 ... I have learned to be **content** whatever the circumstances. 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.*

3. Contentment requires us to be at peace with God's **leadership** in our life.

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Action Steps I will take this week...

- 1. Immediately after this service I will go to the Next Step Center and talk with a minister about how to make Jesus Christ my Savior.
- 2. I will actively pursue God this week through reading His Word, talking with Him and obeying what His Word tells me to do.
- 3. I will find opportunities to be others focused and demonstrate God's love to them.
- 4. I will seek to come to a greater level of contentment about God's leadership and provisions in my life.

CDs and DVDs of today's sermon or previous sermons are available for purchase after the service at our Water's Edge Resource Center.

Notes:
