

THE SECRET OF A SATISFYING LIFE

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"... 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..."

vs. 11-12

WHAT IS CONTENTMENT?

It's not apathy ... laziness ... complacency

How do I get it? PAUL SAYS CONTENTMENT IS

HOW TO EXPERIENCE REAL CONTENTMENT

I. LEARN TO AVOID _____

"... I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances."

vs. 11b

"We do not look at what we can see right now, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven ... The troubles will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever."
2 Corinthians 4:18 (NLT)

Misconceptions about happiness:

- I must _____ what others have to be happy
- I must _____ by everyone in order to be happy
- Having more will _____ happier

ROOT PROBLEM: COMPARING MYSELF TO _____

II. LEARN TO ADJUST TO _____

"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." vs. 12

Types of Circumstances

- Those we can control and _____
- Those we can control and _____
- Those we can _____

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." Romans 12:18

KEY TO ADJUSTING: A SENSE OF _____

III. LEARN TO DRAW ON CHRIST'S _____

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." vs 13

"... I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me, that is, I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency." (Amp)

"But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in (your) weakness.'" 2 Corinthians 12:9

IV. LEARN TO _____ GOD TO MEET MY NEEDS

"And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus." vs. 19

"So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?... your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'" Matthew 6:31-33

NOTES: _____
