



## Learning to Live with Contentment

1 Timothy 6:6-7 (NIV)

*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.*

Contentment: LEARNING to live life independent of circumstances.

Why contentment is so elusive:

- We confuse it with happiness.
- Human nature
- American culture
- Unrealistic expectations

### Four Keys to Learning to Live a Contented Life:

#### 1. Practice thankfulness.

- Thankfulness and discontentment can't room together.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

*give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

#### 2. Live more from inspiration than merely motivation.

- Motivation: External force of man.
- Inspiration: Move of God in a person's life.
- Success that doesn't result in contentment is a result of motivation and not inspiration.
- Motivation tends to exalt self while inspiration always exalts Christ.

#### 3. Live practically. (Ecclesiastes 5:10)

- What place does God have in my financial life?
- What would those who know me best say is most important to me?

#### 4. Crack the code. (Philippians 4:10-13)

- In the midst of circumstances we love or hate learn to ask: "Lord, how can I represent You well today?"
- Living missional is the key to contentment.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

- The great commission is not a calling for some it is a mandate for all.