

“Faithful Stewards and the Art of Contentment” 1/10/10

Philippians 4:10-13

Sermon Series- “Biblical Foundations of Stewardship”

Steward- someone who manages the resources of another to accomplish the goals of the owner. (Genesis 39:2-4) **REVIEW- From our Failures to Faithfulness**

Contentment- the state of being satisfied with one’s current situation. **NUM 11**

Materialism- theory of doctrine that physical well-being and worldly possessions constitute the greatest good and highest value of life.

What do you need to be happy? Is it just one more thing? Vaca, Comp

POINT 1- Faithful Stewards are committed learning the art of CONTENTMENT

ILLUSTRATION- QUAKER COMMENT

A. A.C. is the ability to be satisfied in PLENT OR POVERTY
self sufficient and emotionally independent of changing financial circumstances
“Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5

B. A.C. is the ability to recognize the true meaning of FULFILLMENT
(Does not satisfy- Eccl 5:10; Produces Misery- **1 Tim 6:6-10, 17**; Deut 8:3)
Polls show to reach American dream: if you have 25K need 54K; 100K-192K
“He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is temporary.” Eccl 5:10

C. A.C. is the ability that faithful stewards have set their heart to LEARN
(**1 Cor 9:24-27**; Luke 9:23-24; Gal 5:23; Tit 1:8; older men 2:2; 2 Pet 1:6)
“Every man needs to have something he wants, and that he chooses not to buy”

D. A.C. is the ability above anything else, to be THANKFUL
(**Hebrews 10:34**; 1 Thess 5:18; Eph 5:20; Col 3:17; Phil 4:6)

E. A.C. is the ability to recognize that it is REQUIRED BY GOD
(Hebrews 13:5; Luke 3:13 “Be content with your wages.” Rom 1:21)

F. A.C. is the ability to realize that it only comes through CHRIST
(Philippians 4:13; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

Going God wants us to be confessing our sin of discontentment and
Deeper progressing toward learning the art of being content!

1) change thinking; 2) ask “does” not “would” God want me to buy this; 3) all spending is a spiritual decision; 4) do I need it or want it?; 5) embrace condition with proper attitude

Discontentment makes rich men poor, while contentment makes poor men rich.

Leaning on his fence one day, a devout Quaker was watching a new neighbor move in next door. After all kinds of modern appliances, electronic gadgets, plush furniture, and costly wall hangings had been carried in, the onlooker called over, "Neighbor, If you find you're lacking anything or simply have a desire for more things, let me know and I'll show you how to live without it."