

Topic: Key To Contentment
Text: 1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NIV)
Theme: “Find the key to true contentment”

Introduction

- Contentment is a condition in life that is so elusive. Suicide rates catapult at the top of the killer chart due to depression and discontentment. If people will just learn how to use their available resources, discontentment will never be their Waterloo.
- Does contentment stem from poverty? Possible. Let's clear up misconceptions about poverty.
- Definitely, there is no blessing in poverty; but equally, it's untrue that if you are a faith-filled Christian then you will automatically be blessed with great material wealth.
- The Parable of the Rich Fool in Luke 12:13-21 explains how material blessings are not wrong by themselves, but the love for them is. Paul reminded Timothy that it's the love of money that is the root of all evil. How true it is that obsession with money leads to utmost unhappiness.
- What is the solution to this problem? This sermon gives you the keys to false and true contentment.

I. THE KEYS TO FALSE CONTENTMENT

A. *Four examples below will not make us happy.*

- Note how many people fall into the trap of believing if only they had these four examples, they would be happy.
 1. Work: The average person is not content in his job and also incorrectly looks to his work to find fulfilment. We should not think more highly of ourselves than we ought. (Romans 12:3)
 2. Homes: Explain the common misconception of “upgrading”. Always trying to get a bigger and better home.

3. Cars: Explain how if we look after a new car well it can last us for 20 years. But discontentment steps in so often, hence why when you look at a church car park it is full of new vehicles.
4. Finances: Go back to 1 Timothy 6:8-10, ask when it comes to money, when is enough, enough? Note how some of the wealthiest people in the world are also the greediest and unhappiest.
1 Timothy 6:8 "But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.
V9 People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.
V10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (NIV)

B. But when it comes to contentment – you do not know what you’ve got until it is gone.

- Explain how we suddenly appreciate what we had, when what we had is taken from us.
- Re-visit the 4 subjects of Work, Homes, Cars, Finances, and consider how you would feel if you lost your job, were evicted from your house, had to sell your car, and had no money left.
- Suddenly all you would ever want is that which you formerly had, and if you were given it, you would be so content.

II. THE KEY TO TRUE CONTENTMENT

- A. Paul's reveals his secret of being content in any given situation. (Philippians 4:10-13)**
- B. Paul is always content even in the face of such great adversity. (2 Corinthians 11:23-27)**
- C. Paul finds his contentment in the strength given to him by Jesus, and rejoices in the Lord and the knowledge that God is control of all our circumstances. (Philippians 4:13)**
- D. So what is the key to contentment in two words?**
- "Christ Jesus!"
 - Our meaning in life and our value can only be found in one place, and one place alone--the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - See what King Solomon had said at the conclusion of all that was most important in life. (Ecclesiastes 12:13)