



TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 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.

1 Timothy 6:6-10

Contentment

Some people think that contentment means getting everything they want as soon as they want it. If that's contentment—a desire and want of more—it can easily lead to a negative view of life that says, "Look what I DON'T have." It can lead us to resent what others have but we don't.

What is the secret to happiness? God says, "Godliness with contentment is great gain." Being content with what you have rather than looking at what you do not will put your focus on the positive and not the negative. Contentment is the heart of a believer who believes God is our provider, who provides for our spiritual and earthly needs because we are his children. Jesus gave up his breath on the cross. There we find all debts of sin are paid. It promises peace with God. It assures of salvation. It leads to the conviction that "God works all things out for our good".

One of the best definitions of contentment that I have heard is, "not having all you want but wanting only what you have." Satisfied with what you have—that is being content. It means having all you need not craving for more. "But what if I do not have all I need to support my life?" Jesus answers, "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Matthew 6:26) Yes, you are valuable to Jesus! Find contentment in him!

Prayer: Dear Lord in heaven help us to be content with what we have and not to worry about what we do not. For we know that you will provide everything that we need to keep our bodily life. Thank you for sending your Son to die on the cross in our place so that we can be content in you today. Amen.