

Respectable Sins

Discontentment ~ A Commitment to Contentment
Grace Fellowship Church, Pastor André Rusch, April 3, 2011

Discontentment- *“Dissatisfaction I have with what I have”*

I. Comparison Kills Contentment

Esther 5:11-13

A. When you compare, you become aware of what you don't have.

2 Corinthians 10:12, “Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.”

B. Awareness fuels your discontentment.

What you had been perfectly content with you were all of a sudden discontent with. Why? Because you became aware of what you didn't have.

II. Your appetite for more will never be satisfied.

Proverbs 27:20, “Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, and never satisfied are the eyes of man.”

Ecclesiastes 5:10–12, “He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.”

Ecclesiastes 6:7–9, “All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind.”

III. Godliness connected to Contentment is great gain

1 Timothy 6:6–11, “Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.”

IV. As I starve my sinful dissatisfaction, I must feed new, holy appetites and redirect my pursuits as I become aware of others needs around me.

1 Timothy 6:18–21, “They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life. O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called ‘knowledge,’ for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.”

Matthew 5:6, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”

If you are a follower of Christ, this isn’t optional, this is the standard to which we have been called to live our lives.

Questions:

- What creates material discontentment in you?
- What can you do to become less aware? How can you shift your awareness?
- What can you do this week to become more aware of what someone else doesn’t have? (to the point that it bothers you?)
- What should you become discontent over in your life? What about your spiritual life?