

Do You Know True Contentment?

It seems there are very few people who are consistently content with life. It's more common to be up and down mentally and emotionally depending on our circumstance. So here's a question for you: How content are you? Are you consistently enjoying your life?

God loves us and has a good plan for our lives. Jeremiah 29:11b (AMPC) says His thoughts and plans for us are "for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome." And John 10:10 tells us Jesus "came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)."

It was such a revelation for me when I realized that God wants me to enjoy my life now, not just barely get by, hanging on until I get to heaven. It was also a life-changing revelation when I understood that my joy and contentment don't have to have their foundation on my circumstances. In Christ, I can learn "how to be content (satisfied to the point where I am not disturbed or disquieted) in whatever state I am" (Phil. 4:11).

Being content doesn't mean you never want change or to have anything else in your life. It means you can be satisfied to wait with a good attitude for whatever God chooses to do. It means that even when you want something to happen, you still trust God to believe that if He doesn't give you what you want, He has your best interest at heart. You'll find that what He gives you is better than what you thought you wanted to begin with.

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The world is full of problems, and we all have times when things don't go as we planned. It's so wonderful when we get to the point that we can be happy even when life doesn't go our way!

I've learned that since the world probably isn't going to change, I must change my approach to circumstances—my attitude and my expectations. It was a great breakthrough for me when I discovered God wants me to have great expectations of Him. He wants me to put all of my hope in Him and exercise my faith in Him to do great things in my life.

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