

The Truth Is . . . More Is Never Enough

It is better to be happy with what you have than to always want more and more. Always wanting more and more is useless. It is like trying to catch the wind. Ecclesiastes 6:9 (ERV)

Consequences of continually wanting more, more, more . . .

More anxiety

Workers may or may not have enough to eat, but at least they can get a good night's sleep. The rich, however, have so much that they stay awake worrying. Ecclesiastes 5:12 (GNT)

More exhaustion

Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich; be wise enough to control yourself. Proverbs 23:4 (NCV)

More conflict

Being greedy causes trouble for your family. Proverbs 15:27a (CEV)

Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. 1 Timothy 6:9 (MSG)

More dissatisfaction

Those who love money will never be satisfied with money, and those who love riches will never be happy with what they have. Ecclesiastes 5:10 (VOICE)

I've learned by now to be quite content whatever my circumstances. I'm just as happy with little as with much, with much as with little. I've found the recipe for being happy whether full or hungry, hands full or hands empty. Philippians 4:11b-12 (MSG)

Ways to experience Godly contentment . . .

Stop comparing yourself to others.

Are you comparing yourselves to others and becoming consumed with jealousy? Then it sounds like you are living in the flesh, no different from the rest who live by the standards of this rebellious and broken world. 1 Corinthians 3:3 (VOICE)

Playing the comparison game reveals that we are emotionally insecure and spiritually immature.

Learn to enjoy what you have.

Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. Ecclesiastes 5:18 (MSG)

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. 1 Timothy 6:17 (NLT)

Remember that contentment is a choice.

Decide to change your wanters.

Watch out and guard yourselves from every kind of greed; because your true life is not made up of the things you own, no matter how rich you may be. Luke 12:15b (GNT)

Realize that life is not made up of the things you own.

Your heart will always be where your treasure is. Matthew 6:21 (CEV)

Talk About It

1. When was a time you were truly content?
2. How content would you say you normally are? Why do you think that is?
3. Why do you think people struggle with allowing their yearnings to exceed their earnings?
4. What are some ways that anxiety about money may affect people's health?
5. How have you seen conflict about money damage family relationships?
6. Which of your neighbor's possessions do you most covet?
7. What do you think is the relationship between money and personal satisfaction?
8. How much do you tend to compare yourself with others? What do you think of that?
9. What do you think of the idea that playing the comparison game reveals that we are emotionally insecure and spiritually immature?
10. How do you deal with the desire to acquire in your own life?
11. What do you think it will take for you to learn to enjoy what you already have?
12. In what ways do you think God would have you change your wanters?