

IS IT OKAY TO BE CONTENT?

I mean, shouldn't I always be striving for more?
Doesn't the culture demand a certain restlessness, lest we be labeled, lazy, unmotivated or assumed likely to amount to nothing?

Even as children, we were taught:

“Good, better, best. Never let it rest.
‘Til your good is better and your better is best.”



“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. 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. 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 Tim. 6:6-10



“Christian contentment is the God-given ability to be satisfied with the loving provision of God in any and every situation.” - Charles Kelley



KEYS TO CONTENTMENT

Philippians 4:10-20



VS. 10

- Once again, rejoicing greatly in the Lord, seeking first Kingdom (Matt 6)

Don't underestimate the value of the Body of Christ functioning as the Body of Christ. (And be careful to not sit around waiting for someone else to love you like that. Love them like that...)

VS. 11-12

- Contentment is a learned behavior - an intentional choice – borne out of understanding of His character and nature.
- In what circumstances?
 - Whatever.
 - Well-fed or hungry.
 - In plenty or in want.



VS. 13

Here's the secret, the key to contentment:

“I can do all things through
Christ who gives me strength.”

WHAT?

God strengthens. God sustains. God supplies.
And while we are waiting, God gives us the grace
and the grit to rest in Him



VSS. 14-18

Deep gratitude for the Philippian church

A word of encouragement regarding a gift given in
Jesus' name:

“They are a fragrant offering,
an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.”

AN AWESOME PROMISE VS. 19

How many needs? All Really? Yep

(See Matt. 6; Rom. 8:32)

So if He doesn't supply something after I have been faithful to seek His face, to wait upon the Lord, and to be diligent in my labors, might I assume I don't really need it? Sounds right

Once again it becomes a matter of faith/trust in both His ability, His awareness, His fairness and His goodness

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE VS. 20

“Man’s chief end is to glorify God...” Westminster Shorter Catechism

If at the end of the day, God is glorified by my plenty, my want, my health, my sickness, my strength or my weakness, it has been a good day. Has it not?

God, give us grace to find satisfaction
in Your glory alone.