

Learn to Be Content

Sometimes people grow weary of their situation in life. They become dissatisfied with what they have and yearn for something better. They become like the weary farmer, who having lived on the same farm all of his life, grew tired of it all. He longed for a better farm, the kind he had always dreamed of. So, he decided to sell the farm. He listed the farm with a good realtor.

The realtor prepared an ad to sell the farm at the best possible price. Before publishing the ad, the realtor read it to the farmer. The ad spoke of all the farm's advantages such as its ideal location, good water, modern equipment, rich soil, and fine stock. Upon hearing it, the farmer decided not to sell after all. "All my life I've been looking for a place just like that," said the farmer, "I think I'll keep it."

The thing the farmer yearned for the most was what he had always possessed. All of us must learn to be more satisfied with what we have and limit our yearning for more. To desire what we do not have causes us to forget or play down our present blessings. Blessings are always there if we would just take the time to notice and appreciate them.

The secret is to learn to be satisfied with what we have, especially

Munfordville Church of Christ 104 Back St — P.O. Box 322 Munfordville, KY 42765 (270) 524-3345 www.scrtc.com/mcc Marty Edwards, Minister 577 Possum Trot Road Hardyville, KY 42746 (270) 528-2447 medwar@scrtc.com

Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

when those things are adequate to meet our needs. Paul learned this secret of happiness in Philippians 4:11-12, "11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, [therewith] to be content. 12I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." He had already said in Philippians 4:6, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Frank Berthold Chadbourne North Church of Christ, San Angelo, Texas �



Tread of a man who lived with his six children in the suburbs of Philadelphia. Just before school was to start, all of his children needed new shoes. At the same time, the washing machine played out. To top it all off, because of bad weather, his work had been reduced.

He was able to manage the shoes, but finally ran an ad for a used washing machine. He answered a call concerning a used washing machine and found the home filled with all the comforts anyone could ever want. After arranging to pick up the old washer, the conversation got around to children, and the impoverished man commented on the problems of feeding and clothing six children.

The woman of the fine house ran out the room crying. The husband explained that they had only one child and he had been paralyzed from birth, so he had never needed a pair of shoes.

When the man with the six children stated, "When I went home I picked up the worn out shoes— worn out from skipping rope, kicking rocks, and jumping puddles, and I went off to be my myself. Kneeling by my bed, I gave thanks to God for the worn out shoes in our house."

How many of the complaints in your life should be a means of giving thanks to the Lord?

—via The Admonisher

West Side Church of Christ Searcy, Arkansas ❖



—Hallie Davidson is in the Hart County Health Care Center in Horse Cave. Continue to remember Mandy Hankins, Jean Coffee, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry.



Wade Worth—January 3 • Linda Terry—January 29

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The Wrong Way

In 2000 a Singapore Airlines jet crashed on a runway in Taiwan killing 81 people. The plane had attempted to take off on the wrong runway. This particular runway was under construction and had many obstacles on it.

The correct runway was along side the wrong one. No doubt, they both were very similar, but yet the differences caused destruction and great loss of life.

Consider how many people are following the Lord in this manner. They feel they are following correctly. The manner in which they are worshiping seems similar to what the Bible authorizes and teaches, but it is different. The differences will lead to spiritual death and everlasting destruction.

There was a way that seemed right to the pilot, but it lead to destruction. Proverbs 14:12 and 16:25 have nearly identical wording, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof [are] the ways of death."

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, December 28, 2008		
Classes	13	Revelation 13:9-11
Preaching	24	
Contribution	\$324.48	
Evening	15	Joshua 24:15
Tuesday, December 30, 2008		
Classes	17	Genesis 33-50 review

Bible Quiz

How did Joseph seat his brothers at a meal?

Last Week's Answer—Sun, Moon, and stars (Genesis 1:15-19)



For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

—Mark 8:36

—God's Plan of Salvation—

- 1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
- 2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
- 3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
- 4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
- 5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
- 6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)