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## **Learning Contentment: Reshaping Our View of Contentment** **Cal Rychener**

**1 Timothy 6:6-11 (NIV):** 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. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people 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. But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

**1 Timothy 6:5 (NIV):** ...who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

**1 Timothy 6:6 (NIV):** ...godliness with contentment is great gain.

**Psalms 37:4 (NIV 1984):** Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

**1 Timothy 6:7 (NIV):** For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

**1 Timothy 6:8 (NIV):** But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

**1 Timothy 6:9 (NIV):** Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

**1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV):** 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 through with many griefs.

**1 Timothy 6:11 (NIV):** But you, man of God, flee from all this...

**1 Timothy 6:11 (NIV):** ...flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

**Hub of Interest:** job, success, goals, possessions, money, houses, cars, etc.

**Hub of Pursuit:** godliness (God-centered life and character), righteousness, faith, healthy relationships (love and gentleness), endurance

### **Four Aspects of a God-Centered Life That Stem From the Hub of Pursuit**

**Aspect #1:** Pursue Righteousness

**1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV):** Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

**Aspect #2:** Pursue Faith

**Aspect #3:** Pursue Healthy Relationships

**Romans 12:17 (NIV):** Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

**Aspect #4:** Pursue Endurance

### **Four Principles of Contentment**

**Principle #1:** Contentment is the by-product of pursuing the right things in your life!

**Principle #2:** You will never know contentment by making the Hub of Interest your Hub of Pursuit!

**Matthew 6:33 (NIV):** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**Principle #3:** You will never know contentment if you make the Hub of Pursuit a mere Hub of Interest.

**Principle #4:** You can know which hub is most important in your life by asking one question: Which hub occupies the majority of my focus and planning?