



# New Hampton Community Church

*“Leading People to a Growing Relationship with Jesus Christ”*

“I have learned that in whatever situation I am in to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to be abundant. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance, and need, I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:11-13

The answer might surprise you, Contentment. That's right, contentment! Contentment brings peace, not apathy. Fun can be bought, not contentment!

## Two Barriers to Contentment

Here are the top two barriers that keep you from true contentment:

### 1. Jealousy

Nothing can steal your contentment quite like jealousy.

Yup- I'm talking about keeping up with the Joneses.

2. Comparison - Comparison is the thief of joy. Comparing your life to someone else's is like playing a game you'll never win.

- “Are they servants of Christ? I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone **without** food; I have been cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.” 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

- I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no

opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4: 10-13 NIV

- Jesus said, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?” Matthew 6:25
- “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33:

So, where does our contentment come from?

▶ Does it come from our walk with Jesus (does Jesus bring the contentment)?

▶ Absolutely it does!

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

▶ Does it come from our abiding in or submitting to Jesus?

▶ Absolutely it does!

“We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.” 1 John 2:3-6

What is preventing you from experiencing true contentment in Christ?

▶ Name one step you will take this week/month to be more content in your walk with Jesus

▶ What will help you walk closer with Jesus?

▶ What will help you submit to the love of Jesus?