

Satan's How to be dissatisfied #4

A lot of times grandparents send money to their grandkids on their birthday and for Christmas. A couple of years ago Barb sent one envelope with three Christmas cards in it to our three grandkids in Mississippi and in each card she put a \$20 bill.

When the envelope arrived we got a call from our daughter who said it came with a note that the Post office had received it damaged and they had taped it back together. It was damaged all right when someone in the post office opened it to take out the \$20 bills.

There was a lot of dissatisfaction involved with that on both ends. Barb was upset and the grandkids were also unhappy. We get pretty dissatisfied when stuff like that happens even though we all know that money and things don't buy happiness. (Barb sent checks from then on.)

But wouldn't you **agree** that money and things don't of themselves bring happiness?

Then, you agree with what Paul told Timothy. 1 Timothy 6:6-8, *"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing in to the world, and we can take nothing out of it."* Again, I am sure you would agree.

You've never seen a **Hearse pulling behind a U-Haul**, right? You're born with nothing, you die with nothing and then scripture says, *"But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."* 1 Timothy 6:8

This is where it breaks down for a lot of people, to the best of my knowledge most of us have **food**, no one here is going hungry, right? Also, you have **clothing**. In fact, as I look around everyone I see has clothing on. Scripture says if we have food and clothing we should be content with that. Yet, the reality is, most people are not content with that, are they?

Let me ask you another question. You don't have to raise your hands. How many of you honestly believe that if you had **a little more money**, it **would make your life better?** Now, if you were honest with yourself a whole lot of you would agree that an extra \$10,000 a year would sure make your life a lot easier.

Now just a couple of minutes ago we all agreed that money and things don't buy happiness. So why is it that most of us believe that an extra \$10,000 a year, that's an extra **\$192 a week**, would make a big difference in our life.

Why is that? Because intellectually we can say money and things don't buy happiness, but the way we live communicates that deep down we really believe that if we only had more, then we would be satisfied!

When the multi-millionaire **John D. Rockefeller** was asked "**How much money is enough?**" He answered "**Just a little bit more.**" And most people, if they were truly honest, when asked, what do you need to be happy? Most people would say, "Just a little bit more!" But if you're always chasing more, you'll never be able to enjoy what you have.

Psychologists have found that **once you have basic needs met**, once you are able to afford food, shelter and clothes, **more money and stuff has little effect on your happiness**. In fact, in a study of members of the Forbes 400 richest people in the world list, the world's wealthiest individuals rated their satisfaction with life at exactly the same level as did the **Masai of Kenya**, who have no electricity or running water.

This goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden; **Adam and Eve** had everything that anyone could ever want. And God said, "Enjoy, be fruitful, multiply! But there is one tree you have to avoid!" And, in the form of a serpent, came along and said, "Did God really say, 'You can't have that?'"

I mean, you have everything else, but since you don't have that one thing you can't really be happy, you need that one thing you don't have to be happy. What do you need? Just a little bit more.

When **Satan tempted Jesus**, he took Jesus to the top of a mountain and said, "Everything, as far as the eye can see can be Yours! If you just bow down and worship me, You could have all that!" Because, won't a little bit more make you happier?" Well, Jesus obviously knew better, but most of us don't; because the average person today is either a **little or a lot dissatisfied** with life.

Luke 12:16-21, Jesus said, "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'" "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

Which in reality, is what most of us hope for, isn't it? Truthfully, I mean, one day **when** we get such and such, and **then** we will be happy. It may not be more money; we can be dissatisfied with all sorts of things.

It could be we are dissatisfied with our bodies, if only I could lose 20 pounds or 40 pounds, or 60 pounds! Or, dissatisfaction with our relationships; one day, when I get married, then I will be happy!

Or, I wish I was married to a better person, I thought one day when I was married I would be happy, but now I'm married to him and he's not what I thought!

I was happy with my iPhone, until the new phone came out, the 3GS 2.489B model, which has an app that can scramble your eggs, and I don't have that one! And, one day when I get that one, then I'll be....HAPPY!

One day when I get there, then I can take life....EASY! I'm not there yet, I'm not satisfied yet! But, one day, when.....**then I'll be happy!** And here is what God said, verse 20; *"You fool! 'This very night your life will be demanded from you...this is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."*

But today's message is about **Satan's how to be dissatisfied with life**. So, if you ever find yourself with becoming content with life here are Satan's 5 easy steps on how to become dissatisfied.

Step 1: Become great at being ungrateful. And to do that you have to disregard Hebrews 12:28, *"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe."*

[Video] How about you are you unbelievably lucky?

As a Christian you are a joint heir with Christ and you are going to inherit the Kingdom of God and you are going to have mansions in Heaven and you are going to have new glorified bodies forever and ever and ever!

Now, you have to be careful to not think about that or **you might become grateful**. Just think that what is really important is the **here and now**. Eternity is not important. And although God may have given you a lot of things, there are many things you don't have and you need to focus on those to develop a spirit of ungratefulness.

Now, here is what you do; **resent God's goodness in other people's lives**. You see someone that the Lord is blessing and think, *"Why couldn't that be me, I wish that was me!"* Resent it whenever God blesses someone else, and then make sure you ignore God's goodness in your own life.

Never be thankful that you have good health and never be thankful that your kids are doing well. Or, never be thankful that you own a vehicle, which puts you in the top 3% of the wealthiest people in the world.

Be ungrateful that you are not in the top one-half of 1%! Be like the 9 lepers. When Jesus healed 10, only 1 came back to show his gratitude and the other 9 went on with their lives without being grateful. If you want to be dissatisfied, be great at being ungrateful.

Step 2: Compare what you have to people who have more. 2 Corinthians 10:12, *“We do not dare classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.”*

Well, they may not be wise, but they are doing what they have to do in order to be ungrateful. After all, you have to compare to know where you rank. So whenever you start to be satisfied with something, find someone who has something better or bigger or more.

For example, if you start to like your house, just go to an open house, one that is better than yours. Then, come back to your **shack** and be unhappy. Maybe, compare husbands, or compare wives, compare hair! Ladies, look at the other gal's hair and think, *“Why can't I have beautiful hair like that?”*

Guys, if you don't have hair, find someone who does, and compare. Compare who has the most friends on **Facebook** and compare who has the most songs on their **ipad**. Compare, if you have one of those washer and dryers where you have to lift the thing up and put the clothes in from the top; oh goodness, you are **deprived!**

Compare **salaries**, you find somebody who does less than you and makes more than you; oh man, that's good for a spirit of ungratefulness! Ladies, compare your **bodies** to the ladies on the magazines who haven't eaten since 2002, right?

Compare with them! The ones that are being airbrushed and have more invested in plastic surgery than you have invested in retirement! Compare your body to them, okay? Compare with people who have more.

Step 3: Make sure you pursue temporary possessions over eternal treasures. Luke 12:15; *“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”*

What? Everyone knows your life is your possessions! Everybody says, *“More is better, bigger is better, newer is better!”* All I need is a little bit more and then I will be happy.

Step 4: Resent God for where you are in life! If you want to be miserable and dissatisfied, blame God for where you are in life. Psalm 43:2; a guy cries out, *“God you are my stronghold, but why have you rejected me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?”*

Lord, it's Your fault. I'm **angry** with You because I am in this **marriage** that isn't so good. Lord, I am **angry** at You because I have been **giving faithfully** and yet, so and so is more materially blessed. Lord, I am **angry** at You that I am not where I thought I should be in life.

You want to be dissatisfied? Resent God that you aren't where you thought you should be in life.

Step 5: Develop an attitude of entitlement. I mean, you deserve more! Well, actually you don't. Romans 6:23, *“For the wages of sin is death!”* You and I deserve death, we have done wrong in the eyes of a Holy God and we don't deserve anything!

Don't let yourself think about that; you deserve more! You have had a rough life and you've worked hard! Man, you deserve more! You deserve those new shoes, you deserve that new purse, and you guys deserve that new boat!

You deserve that half-gallon of Moose Tracks ice cream! You deserve it! Don't let anybody talk you out of it! You deserve it! You deserve that \$120,000 boat on your \$30,000 salary! Go get it man, go get it!

Now some of you might be thinking about sending me an email complaining about this message. Go ahead, make it out to bob@idon'tgivearip.com. Send them there, because I believe God's heart is breaking at how dissatisfied and ungrateful we can be.

The Bible says that those who teach will be more strictly judged but I'm afraid I'm not getting through. I'm afraid that people nod in agreement, but then continue living as they always have with no life changes. People will laugh and nod and go to church and go on about their lives.

Here is the heart of it; to conclude this series I want to bring it all into this moment. Here is the deal. **Don't tell me what you believe, show me what you believe by how you live.** Here is the key in the whole series; **how we live reveals what we really believe.**

The way a lot of people live is basically saying that what Christ offers is not as good as what the world offers.

Go back to **week #1**; **How to Commit Adultery**. *“Well Lord, I promise for better or for worse, and now 8 years later, 12 years later, I don’t believe that what I promised to You is as good as that other person out there. What You offer is not as good as something else.”*

Week #2; **How to lose your faith or how to drift away from God**: “Okay, yeah I did the church thing, prayed the prayer, got baptized; yeah, whatever, now I am putting God and church on a shelf, because there are all these shiny things out there that I want to pursue.”

Week #3; **How to Be Addicted**: “Well, I know God means life and freedom and joy and all that. But I need peace, and I can find comfort in this bottle! I need peace and I need something else to give me what I am missing, because Jesus is not enough!”

I don’t know what to do and I don’t know where to go and I don’t know how to convince, not just you but me; like you, I have a tendency to chase after things, and so I don’t only need to know that God is enough but that He is far more than enough.

It’s our continual prayer to refuse to settle for the things that do not last.

I want to close with this verse, Philippians 3:7-8, *“But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ...”*

I consider them **rubbish**. The Greek word translated rubbish is the word ‘skubala’; the translation for it is ‘**dung**’ or worse. For those of you who refuse and continue to chase after the rubbish this world offers, my heart goes out to you because you will always live dissatisfied.

But, for those of you who will fight (and it is going to take a fight) and say, *“The things of this world will never satisfy; they are ‘skubala’, are considered all a loss, that I might gain Christ.”* I promise you, we will discover that not only is He enough, but he is way more than enough.

Prayer: Lord, by the power of your Spirit, break all of the lies that we wrongly believe and may the truth of your Son, Jesus, set us free; we count it all a loss that we might gain your Son Jesus. Now let us be repentant that we may gain Christ, and Christ alone. In Jesus Name, I pray. Amen.