

WEEK 2 - CONTENTMENT

OVERVIEW

In a materialistic and hyper-acquisitive culture, it can be very difficult to feel like what we own is "enough." In fact, the entire advertising industry is built on the knowledge that if we feel discontent with what we have, we'll seek to acquire more. However, this is hardly a new phenomenon. Ever since the invention of agriculture, humans have wanted *more*. Which is why the Bible calls God's people to adopt a completely different posture than the rest of the world: one of contentment in God's provision. Learning how to say "enough" may just be the first step to us discovering the freedom that can be found in breaking free from the relentless pursuit of *more*.

Biblical Financial Wisdom Principle #2: Avoid the Use of Debt

I have learned how to be content with whatever I have... For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:11, 13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What would a six-year-old say about the food in your house?
- 2. Maron said that Biblical financial wisdom is a matter of the heart. What does that mean to you?
- **3.** Read <u>Philippians 4:10-13</u>. Maron pointed out that verse 13 in the Greek actually says "For all things I have strength in the one strengthening me," and that "I have strength" means to be whole.
 - a. In your own words, describe what Paul is saying in this passage.
 - b. How did Paul have an eternal perspective? How can you have a perspective like this?
 - c. Define contentment.
- 4. Can you have both contentment and ambition? Why or why not?
- **5.** Read Hebrews 13:5. Maron asked us to consider:
 - **a.** How would an understanding of who we are in relation to God realizing that we are the stewards of His wealth how would that free us from the tyrannical pursuit of more?
 - b. How would that free us from the need to depend on ourselves?
 - **c.** How would the realization that God owns it all fill us with joy and appreciation for what we have, for what He has given us?
- 6. What is your contentment level today?

WEEK 2 CHALLENGE

Identify something in your life that you tend to feel entitled to or take for granted. Next time you use/participate in this thing, express your gratitude for it.