



Discussion Gu'de

"FINDING SATISFACTION"
01/17/16

Breadcrumbs: finding your way back

THE POINT:

CONTENTEDNESS IS THE WAY BACK TO SATISFACTION

Discussion Generators

Don't forget to make announcements to your group!

- →Go around your group and share your God Moments from the past week (God Moments are how you have seen God working, either in your life, or in the life of another).
- Be looking for how you see God working, so that you have something to share next time.
- What has stood out to you so far from the *Breadcrumbs* Point series?
- •In the Point this week, we looked at doing tasks where you never seem to make any progress. Have you ever found yourself in a position like that? How does it make you feel?
- → Read Ecclesiastes 4:4-6. Have you ever been guilty of working extra hard to "keep up" with those around you, because of envy? What did you pursue—was it something "material" or was it something else?
- →Why do you think we do this? What makes others *our* standard for success? Read Psalm 37:1-2. How does this affect our perception of others being our standard? Have you ever found yourself jealous of those who do wrong?

- •Read Psalm 100:4-5. Think through this together: how can thanksgiving (the attitude, not the holiday) help combat envy? Share your ideas.
- •How would you describe "contentment" in your own words? Read 1 Timothy 6:6-9. Does Paul add anything that you missed?
- •Read 2 Cor. 9:6-11. How can "Giving It Away" help combat envy?
- •Contentedness is so hard! As a group, brainstorm a list of reasons that we have such a hard time being content.
- →Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-22. This is such an amazing passage about how God created us! It's time to be a bit vulnerable: have you ever been jealous of someone else for their appearance, gifts, skills, situation? How is this sin? Without getting too "Jesus-Jukey" (click or see Pr'me FB message thread), how do you think this makes God feel?
- →We all have moments of dissatisfaction. Have <u>each person</u> share which <u>one</u> of "5 Practices for Contentedness" you need to work on:
 - Practice Looking to the Right Sources
 - Practice Showing Thankfulness
 - Practice Living with Less
 - Practice Giving It Away
 - Practice Being Who God Made You
- •Are you in a spot where you're working hard at something that is just "chasing the wind"? Confess* it so that your group can pray for you.

*from last week's Point: Confession is the Way Back to Freedom

Bible Verses

Ecclesiastes 4:4-6 (NLT)

4Then I observed that most people are motivated to success because they envy their neighbors. But this, too, is meaningless--like chasing the wind. 5"Fools fold their idle hands, leading them to ruin." 6And yet, "Better to have one handful with quietness than two handfuls with hard work and chasing the wind."

Psalm 37:1-2 (NLT)

1<u>Don't worry about the wicked or envy those who do wrong</u>. 2For like grass, they soon fade away. Like spring flowers, they soon wither.

Psalm 100:4-5 (NIV)

4Enter his gates <u>with thanksgiving</u> and his courts with praise; <u>give thanks</u> to him and praise his name. 5For the Lord is good and <u>his love endures</u> <u>forever; his faithfulness continues</u> through all generations..

1 Timothy 6:6-9 (NLT)

Yet <u>true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth</u>. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and <u>clothing</u>, let us be content. But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction.

2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (NIV)**selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...8God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others...

1 Corinthians 12:14-22 (NLT)*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...22<u>In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary</u>.