

Keeping My Yearnings From Exceeding My Earnings
Series: Faith, Finances & A Fresh Start
Sermon Outline
January 24, 2021
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- † *Proverbs 14:30*, “It’s healthy to be content, but envy will eat you up” (CEV).
- † *Proverbs 14:30*, “A heart at peace gives life to the body” (NIV).
- † *Ecclesiastes 6:9*, “It’s better to be satisfied with what you have than to always be wanting something else” (GNT).

Wanting More Brings . . .

1. More _____.

- † *Proverbs 23:4*, “Don’t wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit” (NLT).

2. More _____.

- † *Ecclesiastes 5:11*, “The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what’s the advantage of wealth—except to watch it run through your fingers!” (NLT).

- A lot of things we believe we _____ are actually fueled by _____.

- † *Philippians 4:19*, “God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (NKJV).

3. More _____.

- † *Ecclesiastes 5:12*, “The man who works hard sleeps well, but the rich worry and suffer insomnia” (TLB).

4. More _____.

- † *Proverbs 15:27*, “A greedy person brings trouble to his whole family” (ICB).
- † *1 Timothy 6:9*, “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” (NLT).

5. More _____.

- † *Ecclesiastes 5:10*, “If you love money, you will never be satisfied; if you long to be rich, you will never get all you want. It is useless” (GNT).
- † *Ecclesiastes 5:10*, “He who loves money shall never have enough. The foolishness of thinking that wealth brings happiness!” (TLB).
- † *Ecclesiastes 6:9*, “It’s better to be satisfied with what you have than to always be wanting something else” (GNT).
- † *Hebrews 13:5*, “Keep your life free from the love of money and be satisfied and content with what you have” (NCV).
- † *Philippians 4:11*, “I have learned the secret of being content . . .” (PAR).

Four Steps To Take To Learn The Secret of Being Content

1. Refuse the _____ to _____ myself to others.

- † *2 Corinthians 10:12*, “We would not dare classify ourselves or compare ourselves . . . How stupid” (GNT).

- I must learn to _____ without having to _____.

- † *Exodus 20:17*, “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor” (NASB).

- “Coveting” refers to the _____.
- The word “covet” in Hebrew in the Old Testament is [חָמַד, chamed] and it literally means “to pant after, to lust after, to crave, and to yearn.” The New Testament Greek word is [ἐπιθυμία; epithumia] and it means “a desire that wells up or boil up violently, that which burns. It was the word used for a volcano

that erupted. It refers to that which “moves to consume; to grab or to grasp so tightly that your hands are so tight you can’t even let it go.”

2. _____.

- God wants me to _____ life, not just _____ life.

† 1 Timothy 6:17b, “Trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment” (NLT).

† Ecclesiastes 5:19, “If God gives us wealth and property . . . we should be grateful and enjoy what we have worked for. It is a gift from God” (GNT).

- You need to ask yourself, “What am I _____? Most people get into what is called, “_____ and _____ thinking.”
- There are two ways to have enough. One is hard and one is easy. Here’s how you have enough: _____ or _____. That’s how you’re going to have enough.

† 1 Timothy 6:17-18, “Command those who are rich in the things of this life not to be proud, but to place their hope, not in such an uncertain thing as riches, but in God, who generously gives us everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share with others” (GNT).

- _____ is the antidote to _____.

3. _____ that life not about _____.

† Luke 12:15, “Watch out and guard yourselves from every kind of greed; because your true life is not made up of the things you own, no matter how rich you may be” (GNT).

- In other words, never judge your _____ by your _____. Never think your _____ is related to your _____.
- Life is not about _____. Life is not about _____. Life is about _____.

† Proverbs 30:7-9, “O God, I beg two favors from you; let me have them before I die. ⁸First, help me never to tell a lie. Second, give me neither poverty nor riches! Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. ⁹For if I grow rich, I may deny you and say, “Who is the Lord?” And if I am too poor, I may steal and thus insult God’s holy name” (NLT).

4. Focus on what will _____.

† Revelation 21:1, “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone” (NLT).

Only Two Things Are Going To Last Forever

a. _____.

† Matthew 24:35, “Heaven and earth will disappear, but My Words will never disappear” (NLT).

† Isaiah 40:8, “The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of our God stands forever” (NLT).

b. _____.

† 2 Corinthians 4:18, “For we fix our attention not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever” (GNT).

- The secret of contentment is finding my security, myself and my satisfaction is not in what _____ but in _____ – Christ.

† Psalms 17:15, “But as for me, my contentment is not in wealth but in seeing You and knowing all is well between us. And when I awake in heaven, I will be fully satisfied, for I will see You face-to-face” (TLB).