8-3-25  **LIVING COUNTER-CULTURAL**

**Contentment OVER Consumerism**

*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.* Phil 4:12-13 (NIV)

**CHOOSING LIFE: GENEROSITY AND SIMPLICITY**

1. **NOT MEASURED BY POSSESSIONS**

*Then he said, “Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.”*  Luke 12:15 (NLT)

*Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.*

Eccl 5:10 (NIV)

*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven.  21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Matt 6:19-21 (NLT)

*Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.* Vs 10-11 Psa 90:12 (NIV)

1. **WE ARE \_\_ NOT OWNERS**

*The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.* Psa 24:1 (NLT)

*Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.*  1 Cor 4:2 (ESV)

*The one who is faithful in a very little thing is also faithful in much; and the one who is dishonest in a very little thing is also dishonest in much.* Luke 16:10 (NASB)

*Be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise, 16making the most of your time,*  Eph 5:15-16 (NASB)**3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ BREAKS THE GRIP OF GREED**

*In everything I showed you [by example] that by working hard in this way you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed [and brings greater joy] to give than to receive.’”* Acts 20:35 (AMP)

*The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not grudgingly or in response to pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.* 2 Cor 6-7 (ESV)

*Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray. 36Later Simon and the others went out to find him. 37When they found him, they said, “Everyone is looking for you.” 38But Jesus replied, “We must go on to other towns as well, and I will preach to them, too. That is why I came.”* Mark 1:35-38 (NLT)

1. **FIND JOY IN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*  Matt 6:33 (NIV)

*But godliness with contentment is great gain, 7for we brought nothing into the world, and[*[*c*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Tim%206&version=NIV;NLT;ESV;AMP;NASB#fen-ESV-29779c)*] we cannot take anything out of the world. 8But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. 9But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.* Tim 6:6-10 (ESV)

*Let the brother in humble circumstances glory in his high position [as a born-again believer, called to the true riches and to be an heir of God]; 10and the rich man is to glory in being humbled [by trials revealing human frailty, knowing true riches are found in the grace of God], for like the flower of the grass he will pass away.* James 1:9-10 (AMP)

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