

LIVING IN GRACE  
KEY TO CONTENTMENT  
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

- Have you prayed to God to solve your problems, and felt like He has ignored your prayers?
- How do we find contentment for our soul? Is prayer the solution?

1. God \_\_\_\_\_ trials in the life of a believer for a variety of reasons: (v.7)
2. When in trouble a believer is to ask God's \_\_\_\_\_ or to pray: (v.8)

-Mathew 21:22

-John 14:13

-John 15:7

-John 16:23

-God answers prayers only that are in accordance with His will – 1 John 5:14

3. God wants us to experience \_\_\_\_\_ as we learn to live in His grace: (v.9)

-Saving grace and Enabling grace

-Contentment is being totally satisfied regardless of the circumstances of life; internal satisfaction or rest which does not demand changes in external circumstances.

-Paul learned to delight in his difficulties because he understood the recipe for contentment is not answered prayer, but to live in God's grace.

-Sovereignty of God means: He is the Most High, Lord of heaven and earth. Subject to none. Influenced by none, absolutely independent. God does as He pleases, only as He pleases and always as He pleases. None can thwart Him and none can hinder him. (Arthur Pink)

-Understanding the sovereignty of God will change our perspective on:

-Prayer (Phil. 4:6-7)

-“Good” and “bad”

-2 Corinthians 4:16-18

-Isaiah 26:3 – Focusing on the character and promises of God, rather than answer to prayer

A. Contentment is a trust issue:

-Do I believe in His unfailing love and faithfulness towards me?

-Am I convinced that He is the ultimate Potter and I am His masterpiece pottery being made?

-Do I trust Him to navigate my life through the thick and the thin seasons of life?

B. Contentment is a surrender issue

-Do I want my will to be accomplished or His?

-Am I willing to surrender my desires to His ultimate plans and purposes for my life?

-1 Peter 5:6

-Isaiah 40:31

-Psalms 46:10

-1 Peter 4:19