

Guide to the Believers Prayer of Contentment

This week let us endeavor to apply the principles necessary to pray faith filled prayers of contentment to the Lord. Paul's letter to the Philippians will serve as a good example of how we should be content being that he wrote the letter while he was in prison. Use the following 6 daily lessons to embrace a heart of contentment toward all the things that will confront you daily.

Lesson 1: Ask the Holy Spirit to expose areas of your life that might be subject to discontentment. Philippians 1:27-30

- A. Do you have divided loyalties between the things of God and the things of the world?
- B. Are you willing to suffer because of your faith?
- C. In your prayers today will you intercede for other believers in the United States and foreign countries that are suffering because of the faith in Jesus?

Lesson 2: Are you willing to humble yourself with contentment even when it appears that you are not being treated like you think you deserve to be treated? Philippians 2:1-11

- A. Do you find it hard to be gracious to people who are pushy and unkind?
- B. In prayer today, ask the Holy Spirit to give you the mind of Christ.
- C. Find contentment today in proclaiming the name of Jesus over any adverse circumstances that you are facing.

Lesson 3: Today, ask the Holy Spirit to remind you to "do all things without complaining". Philippians 2:12-18

- A. Make it a goal today to resist the temptation to complain about anything, including the weather, traffic, and slow service providers.
- B. Pray a prayer of contentment and gratitude for something important in your life, e.g. your job, your family, your church, but most of all salvation.
- C. Rejoice knowing that the Lord can use you as an example of light to dispel the darkness in the world.

Lesson 4: Be willing to suffer the loss of anything that will cause you to gain a greater knowledge of Christ. Philippians 3: 7-11

- A. Let the focus of your prayers be for the Holy Spirit to show you the things that would breed discontentment of having a relationship with Christ and suffering loss.
- B. Take time to inventory the things in your life that you feel are important and measure them against your joy of knowing Jesus.
- C. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what it will mean for you to be conformed to the death that Jesus suffered.

Lesson 5: Are you willing to an example to the world of what it means be a believer in this world? Philippians: 3:17-21

- A. Does the example put forth by your life draw people to Jesus or drive them away?
- B. Pray a prayer of contentment that affirms your willingness to be a follower of Christ even if it means losing the favor of friends and family.
- C. Are you good with the reality that your true citizenship is in heaven, free from earthly politics?

Lesson 6: Find true contentment in praying that your mind can be transformed by the Holy Spirit to think on the right things.

Philippians: 4:8-9

- A. Pray to the Holy Spirit for revelation about things that will help you think like Jesus would.
- B. Seek out opportunities to share with people the great things that Lord has done in your life and the lives of others.
- C. Be content to be an example of grace in action for the world to see.

Find true contentment in desiring to be a blessing to others. God does not bless us just to raise our standard of living. He blesses us to raise our standard of giving.