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²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. —Galatians 5:25-26 ESV

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What's the Big Deal About Envy?

- Disregards God's Design

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Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. —Psalm 139:16

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Abortion and racism are both symptoms of a fundamental human error. The error is thinking that when someone stands in the way of our wants,



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we can justify getting that person out of our lives. Abortion and racism stem from the same poisonous root—selfishness.” —Dr. Alveda King



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What's the Big Deal About Envy?

- Distracts Us From God's Purpose

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No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. —Matt. 6:24 ESV

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What's the Big Deal About Envy?

- Drives Us From God's Peace

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¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly,

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unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure. —James 3:14-17a

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For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. —Titus 3:3 ESV

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What's the Big Deal About Envy?

- Depreciates God's Goodness

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A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh,
but envy makes the bones rot.

—Proverbs 14:30 ESV

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For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit,
and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh,

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for these are opposed to each other,
to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

—Galatians 5:17 ESV

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KNOW THIS:

Contentment Starts with God

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⁵Keep your life free from love of money,
and be content with what you have, for He has said,
"I will never leave you nor forsake you."

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⁶So we can confidently say, “The LORD is my helper;
I will not fear; what can man do to me?”
—Hebrews 13:5-6 ESV

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⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain,
⁷for we brought nothing into the world,
and we cannot take anything out of the world.

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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,

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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. —1 Timothy 6:6-10a

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“My brethren, the reason why you do not have
contentment in the things of the world
is not that you do not have enough of them.

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The reason is that they are not things proportional
to that immortal soul of yours that is
capable of God Himself.” —Jeremiah Burroughs

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UNDERSTAND THIS:

Contentment Must be Learned

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Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.
—Philippians 4:11 ESV

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Lessons in Contented Living:

1. Refuse to Compare

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¹³But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?
¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go.

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I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" —Matthew 20:13-15

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Lessons in Contented Living:

2. Rejoice in God's Provision

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Lessons in Contented Living:

3. Resolve to Pursue Generosity

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. —Ephesians 4:28

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Lessons in Contented Living:

4. Refocus on Your Spiritual Inheritance

... ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. —I Peter 1:4-5 ESV

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TAKE THIS:

Contentment Sets You Free

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