

24 April 26  
Tabitha Banker  
Morning Chat  
Berean Ladies Retreat - Camp Anchorage

## 1 Timothy 6

- I. Speaker Intro: Tabitha Banker. 5 kids. Air Force Family. I like trying different crafts. I am currently trying to get better at water color. We moved to NC in 2020 and have been at Berean for 5.5 years. Which is the longest I have ever lived in any one town in my entire life.
- II. Pray
- III. Context
  - A. I want to start by defining some terms
    1. Biblical contentment: a Holy Spirit led, intentionally learned attitude of inward peace about God's provision, and trust in His sovereign goodness, and is not dependent on feelings or circumstances.
    2. Godliness: Piety; belief in God and reverence for His character and laws.
    3. Piety: in principle is a compound of veneration (highest degree of respect and reverence) or reverence of the Supreme Being and love of His character, or veneration accompanied with love; and piety in practice is the exercise of these affections in obedience to His will and devotion to His service. **Piety is the only proper and adequate relief of decaying man.**
    4. Don't confuse pious with piety
  - B. 1 Tim is written by Paul to Timothy while Timothy is in Ephesus. It is after Paul wrote the book of Ephesians. Basically, in Ephesians Paul warns about false teachers and then after some time word gets back to Paul that false teachers have infiltrated the church. Timothy is there, so Paul writes to him to lay out some guidelines about what church leaders should do/be.
  - C. We are all familiar with 1 Tim 3 where Paul lays out the requirements for elders and deacons.
  - D. Godliness in the Bible: Godliness and piety are the same Greek word and it is only used 15 times in the Bible. 11 of them are by Paul and 4 by Peter. 9 of them are in 1 Timothy. Paul does a lot of comparing in 1 Tim.
  - E. He compares False teachers to what elders/deacons should be, slaves to masters, and selfish gain to great gain.
  - F. This morning, however, we are going to jump into 1 Tim 6.
    1. Read whole chapter
- IV. Observation
  - A. Review definition of contentment
  - B. Build comparison chart for false teachers and godliness

False Teachers	Godliness
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Conceited	
Controversial questions	
Disputes about words	
Envy	
Strife	
Abusive Language	
Evil Suspicions	
Constant Friction	
Depravity of mind	
Deprived of Truth	
Lack of understanding	

C. What gain is Paul referencing?

V. Meaning:

A. To understand what something is, it is often helpful to see what it is not. If Biblical Contentment is a Holy Spirit led, intentionally learned attitude of inward peace about God's provision, and trust in His sovereign goodness, and is not dependent on feelings or circumstances.

B. Discontentment

1. What is discontentment? - dissatisfaction at any present state of things
2. What does it look like?
3. How do we deal with discontentment?

C. Where does discontentment stem from?

D.

Contentment	Discontentment
1 Thes 5:18	Ecclesiastes 5:10
Phil 4:11	Hebrews 13:5
1 Tim 6	Gen 3
Matt 6:31-33	

E. Discontentment is sin.

VI. Application

A. How do we fight discontentment?

1. How do we fight sin?
  - a) We confess it
  - b) Turn back to the Lord

- c) Accountability
    - d) Scripture
  - 2. We understand our propensity to it. Some people struggle with the desire for more “content” more than others. If this is you, fight it with scripture.
  - 3. Recognizing discontent as sin, helps to bring us back to the Lord faster.
- B. Discussion
1. What fuels discontentment?
  2. What “gain” is Paul talking about?
  3. Is it ever appropriate to be discontent?
    - a) “Holy discontentment”
  4. What does discontentment reveal about your heart to God?
  5. What are some warning signs of a habit of discontentment?
  6. Why does this matter on a spiritual level?
    - a) It is sin. It reveals a heart that is not trusting God’s sovereignty. A heart that is not at peace. It requires forgiveness from God and potentially others.
  7. How does one intentionally defend against God?
    - a) 5 Rules of contentment
      - (1) Edward Bouverie Pusey (1800-1882) was a Hebrew Professor at Oxford University, England, for fifty-two years. E. B., as he was called, was also a leader in the Oxford Movement seeking to restore high church worship to the Church of England. He wrote and preached on contentment. If we wish to gain contentment, he advised these five rules:
      - (2)
        1. Allow thyself to complain of nothing, not even of the weather.
        2. Never picture thyself to thyself under any circumstances in which thou art not.
        3. Never compare thine own lot with that of another.
        4. Never allow thyself to dwell on the wish that this or that had been, or were, otherwise than it was, or is. God Almighty loves thee better and more wisely than thou dost thyself.
        5. Never dwell on tomorrow. Remember that it is God’s not thine. The heaviest part of sorrow often is to look forward to it. “The Lord will provide.”
  8. What are you seeking?
    - a) “God’s chief gift of those who seek Him is Himself.” -Pusey