

Instructions to S.S. Teachers, Youth Workers  
and Bible Class Teachers

September

This month we are seeking to explore and apply the biblical teaching that God wants us to be satisfied and have joyful hearts. Solomon told us this is God's intent: "Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work — this is a gift of God" (Eccl. 5:19).

Last month we looked at the Bible's view of money: "For the *love of money* is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs" (1 Tim. 6:10). Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters. 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 both God and Money" (Matt. 6:24).

Read the following verses to your students or study group or have them look them up in their Bibles and read them aloud:

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand  
(1 Chron. 29:11-14).

But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth  
(Deut. 8:18).

Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work — this is a gift of God (Eccl. 5:19).

Lower Grades and Youth:

Ask your students the following key questions:

1. Are you satisfied with the toys, games, clothes and other things you have? Do you want more?
2. Who gives your parents the ability to work and earn money to buy things for you? In reality, then, who is the Giver of all things?
3. What does God want you to do with the toys, games, clothes, and other things that are yours? (Answer: Be satisfied with them and enjoy them.)

Upper Grades and Bible Classes:

Fact: Relatively few Christians are wealthy people. Most are average or below average

when it comes to the amount of their possessions.

Discussion:

You have just been notified that a long lost relative has made you the sole beneficiary of his estate. You had no advance knowledge of this, and there was never any effort on your part to even find or contact this relative. Tomorrow you will inherit twenty million dollars!

1. Will you be happier and more satisfied with your life tomorrow than you are today?
2. Will your life be more enjoyable tomorrow than it is today? (Note Ecclesiastes 5:19.)