

Soaring Into So Much More

January 2022

HOLY DISCONTENTMENT

CONTENT, DISCONTENT, MALCONTENT

Contentment: a state of happiness or satisfaction.

Scriptural References to contentment.

1 Timothy 6:6-8

But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. 8 If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

Philippians 4:11

Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be [b]content in whatever circumstances I am.

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“Learn to be content wherever you are. This learning process is part of the push/pull of faith. Live with big dreams within you, and you will undoubtedly live with a certain amount of tension. Years ago, the Lord showed me that this

tension was holy discontentment. You feel it when the Lord uses “uncomfortableness” to keep you from complacency. Holy discontentment keeps you investigating, studying, and moving forward in the things that He calls you to do.”

Discontentment: a state of dissatisfaction

Holy Discontentment Defined

Holy discontentment is a state of discomfort that the Lord uses to move you forward in your God-given purpose. It is the time when in order to do what God created you to do, changes must be made—but you are not yet able to make those changes.

Holy discontentment is NOT being a malcontent

Mirriam Webster .com defines **malcontent** as “one who bears a grudge from a sense of grievance or thwarted ambition.” **It says that a malcontent is bitter and almost choking with self-pity.**

PUT THE EMPHASIS ON HOLY

WANDERLUST OR WONDER TRUST?

You might be experiencing unholy discontentment if:

- You are looking for **excitement rather than opportunity.**

- When you run after the new bright shiny thing **without considering** whether it fits your God breathed dream.
- When you **jump to say yes** to a new opportunity because you are **bored or dissatisfied with your circumstances.**

The key is the word HOLY

When something is holy it is **dedicated or consecrated to God.**

You can live in your sacred now and still feel God moving you into something new,

Consider Isaiah 54:2

*Enlarge the place of your tent;
Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, spare not;
Lengthen your cords
And strengthen your pegs.*

The time between living in an old tent and doing the work of expansion is the place of holy discontentment.

Isaiah 43:18–19

*Do not call to mind the former things,
Or ponder things of the past.
“Behold, I will do something new,
Now it will spring forth;*

*Will you not be aware of it?
I will even make a roadway in the wilderness,
Rivers in the desert*

Being aware of what God is doing, but not yet being given the green light to move forward is the place of holy discontentment.

STAYING CONTENT IN A SEASON OF HOLY DISCONTENTMENT

1. Do a self scan:

Are you grumbling, operating in self pity, longing for the past, envious of other's success?

Philippians 4:6-8

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

Gratitude is a way to maintain righteous discontentment

2. Practice Daily Gratitude

3. Dwell on godly thoughts and images

4. Take your eyes off of the horizon (big dream) and ask the Lord for **the next right step**.

5. Give your plans to the Lord, trusting Him with your destination.

Psalm 37:5

*Commit your way to the Lord,
Trust also in Him, and He will do it.*

Matthew 6:33

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

6. Reason with God for His plan

Isaiah 1:18

*“Come now, and let us reason together,”
Says the Lord,
“Though your sins are as scarlet,
They will be as white as snow;
Though they are red like crimson,
They will be like wool.*

Strong's Hebrew Lexicon defines “reason” as: “to prove, decide, judge, rebuke, reprove, correct, be right;”

Proverbs 25:2

*It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,
But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.*

There are times when God conceals a matter because He wants to draw you to Himself.

7. Wait until the Lord to says, “Now is the time”

ISAIAH 40:31

Yet those who wait for the Lord

Will gain new strength;

They will mount up with wings like eagles,

They will run and not get tired,

They will walk and not become weary.

HOW TO WAIT ON THE LORD

8 ways or habits to stay in the place of holiness with your discontentment.

1. Live in with gratitude in your Sacred Now with the use of daily gratitude lists
- 2.. Do not be quick to say yes or no.
Practice saying, “Let me think about this and get back to you.
3. Check everything with the Lord and with your vision, mission, and cloud formation.
4. Stay focused on the Lord through worship and time in the Word.
5. Use the time to hone your skills.
6. Use the time to do the work.

7. Use the time to study where you are going.

8. Build your warehouse of resources.

CONCLUSION

Holy discontentment is **one way that the Lord motivates us.**

Holy discontentment **empowers us.**

Holy discontentment **energizes us.**

Holy discontentment **helps us through the growing pains.**

In summary:

1. If you are feeling discontent, **make sure it is from God** (holy) not from selfish ambition or envy.
2. **Stay content** through daily practices of gratitude, reasoning with God, doing today's work, etc.
3. **Wait on the Lord** with one or all of the 8 ideas I presented or add your own.

Holy discontentment **is a temporary thing.** It is a season to walk **through,** not one to stay in permanently.

God will move you forward in His timing.

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Exercise: Holy Discontentment

On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not content and 10 being very content, rate different areas of your life.

What areas are you feeling discontent? Ask yourself and the Lord are there areas in your life where you are experiencing **holy discontentment**.

Then answer these questions concerning that area.

1. Do a spiritual scan to make sure your discontentment is holy: what words are you using about this area? Are you grumbling? Comparing? Envious?
2. If you are showing signs of being a malcontent, repent and receive the Lord's forgiveness.
3. Is your discontentment holy? Is it of God? Is it wanderlust or wonder trust?

Stay Content

Where can you implement daily practices to remain content?

1. Practice Daily Gratitude
2. Dwell on godly thoughts and images
3. Take your eyes off of the horizon (big dream) and ask the Lord for **the next right step**.
4. Give your plans to the Lord, trusting Him with your destination.

5. Reason with God for His plan.

6. Wait until the Lord to says, "Now is the time"

Wait on the Lord

1. Live in with gratitude in your Sacred Now.

2.. Do not be quick to say yes or no.

3. Check everything with the Lord and with your vision, mission, and cloud formation.. Does it fit with what the Lord is asking you to do?

4. Stay focused on the Lord with worship and time in the Word.

5. Use the time to hone your skills.

6. Use the time to do the work.

7. Use the time to study where you are going.

8. Build your warehouse of resources.