



James 4:8

WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Drawing Near to God

Earthly Satisfactions Can Be Misleading by Gary Henry

It is not wrong to enjoy life in this world, but we should be aware of the danger of that enjoyment. The more we have what we want in this life, the more we're deluded into thinking we have all we need. The problem is not that earthly joys are wrong, but that they can be misleading.

On the desk at which I write is a handy dispenser of peanut M&M candies. I can't concentrate when I'm hungry, and a few mouthfuls of M&M's can always be counted on to make the hunger go away. Eating candy is very satisfying. But here is the catch: the very satisfaction that candy gives is misleading. It makes you think you don't need anything else, when in reality, you do.

The Laodiceans were satisfied. They had what they wanted, and the very satisfaction of those needs blinded

them to the fact that they were dangerously deficient in what they really needed. "You do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked," the Lord said to them. Would He be able to say anything different to those of us today who

"I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing" - and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. (Revelation 3:17)

are enjoying life so well?


What should we do, then, in regard to this world's "candy"?

(1) We should moderate our indulgence. Like candy, the things to be enjoyed in this life should not be overindulged, lest they "spoil our appetite" for the nourishment we truly need.

(2) We should hold on to our priorities. Even

when our greater needs are not being felt, they are still there. We need to keep clear what is important, even when it doesn't feel particularly urgent.

(3) We should discipline our thinking.

When we have what we want right now, our minds are drawn toward this world. But we can choose to "set [our] minds on things above" (Col. 3:2). It may sound contradictory, but there is a sense in which we need to enjoy our earthly enjoyments a little less enjoyably! Somehow, we must learn to be content without being complacent. We must learn to be thankful for what we already have while remembering that we don't yet have what we need most of all. 

"Show me a thoroughly satisfied man — and I will show you a failure." —*Thomas Edison*

**AM Sermon: When God is Silent—Genesis chs. 37-50
PM Sermon: PM Service Cancelled Until Further Notice**

Quotables



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Times of Services

Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

www.springdalechurchofchrist.com

“Meek endurance and meek obedience, the acceptance of His dealings, of whatever complexion they are and however they may tear and desolate our hearts, without murmuring, without sulking, without rebellion or resistance, is the deepest conception of the meekness that Christ pronounced blessed.” —*Alexander Maclaren*

“If you want to be miserable think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you, and what people think of you.”

—*Charles Kingsley*

Westside Family News... (send news to durhamchuk@aol.com)

Prayer List:

Parker Family (family issues); **Kat Deuster and boys** (continued stability); **Kellye Hardin** (for improvement)

Shut-Ins: **Bill Lundy; Nadine Poteete; Darl and Betty Feagin; Virginia McElhaney**

General Family Info:

Continue praying for **Marc & Taryn Parker's** grandsons and family. Also, please pray for Marc's brother, **Robert Parker**, who has the Covid19 virus. He's doing better. Pray fervently for **JR Hart**, the nephew of **Ryan Davis**. He

will have another major surgery on June 17. He'll have radiation following the surgeries. We give our love to the Davis family. **Wes Richardson's** cousin died unexpectedly this past week. She was 51 years old. She lived in Knoxville, TN. Keep **Beth Ledbetter** in your prayers and others at Westside who (due to underlying health issues) cannot take the risk to return to our assemblies during the Covid19 crisis. We miss all of them terribly and send our love and prayers to each of them! **Jake and Julia Nabors** have moved into a new house. Their new address is: **817 Flycatcher Trace, Springdale, 72762.**

Due to the Covid19 outbreak: Sunday AM Worship services are at **9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.** We will Live-stream the 9 a.m. service on our Facebook page. **Chuck's** videos are posted for **Wednesday's Study on Genesis 12-50.** For the study on **June 17**, please read **Gen. chs. 48-49.** Questions will be sent to your email address on Sunday PM.

New Adult Quarter Bible Study will begin on **Wednesday, July 1.** **Chuck** will be teaching via posted videos on our website. The topic will be: **Church History from 70 A.D. to 325 A.D.** More details to follow.