

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

1 Timothy 6:3-19

⁶ ...godliness with
contentment is
great gain.



To DEFINE

NOT COMPLACENCY -



“The stiff and wooden quality about our religious lives is a result of our lack of holy desire.

Complacency is a deadly foe of all spiritual growth. Acute desire must be present or there will be no manifestation of Christ to His people.”

A.W. TOZER



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

NOT COMPLACENCY -

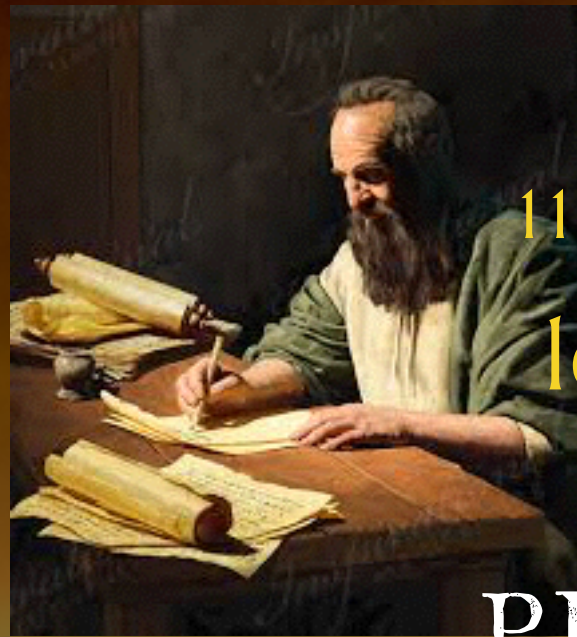
Complacency is a careless satisfaction with one's life & state – An attitude of apathy, a disregard & Unconcern for one's deficiencies in character, work ethic & service.



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

NOT COMPLACENCY -



PHILIPPIANS 4:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:

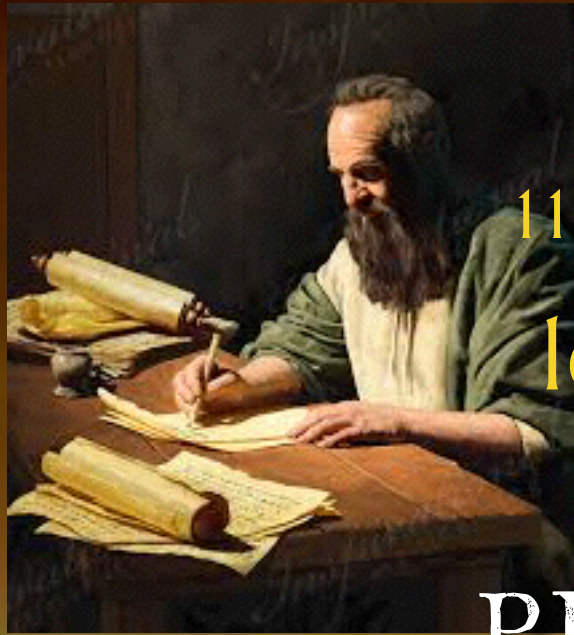
PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14 (NKJV)

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

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PHILIPPIANS 4:11 (NKJV)

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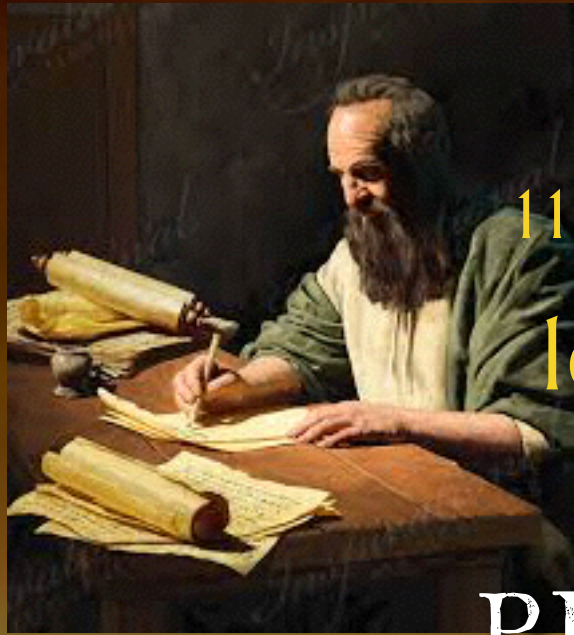
PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14 (NKJV)

⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

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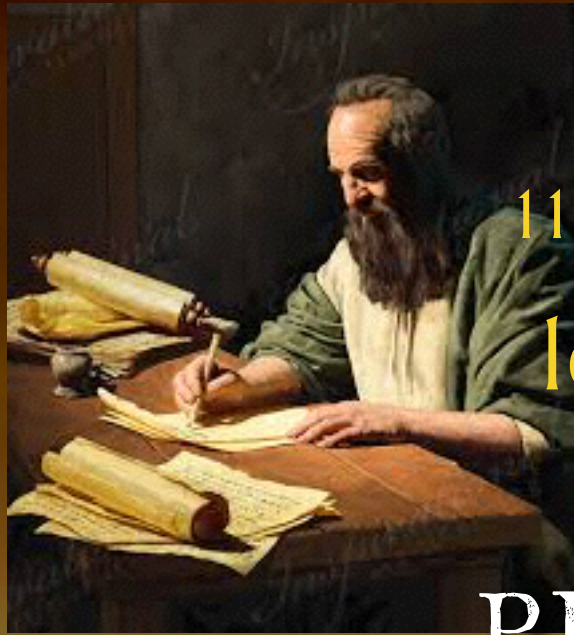
PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14 (NKJV)

¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

NOT COMPLACENCY -



PHILIPPIANS 4:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:

PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14 (NKJV)

¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

CONTENTMENT IS ...

DBL Greek — αὐτάρκεια (*autarkeia*),
ας (*as*), ἡ (*hē*): n.fem.; ≡ Str **841**;
TDNT 1.466—1. LN 25.83
contentment, satisfaction in one's
circumstance or position in life (1Ti
6:6+); 2. LN 75.6 **adequacy**,
sufficiency (2Co 9:8+) - - -

Vines EDONTW - *autarkeia*
(αὐτάρκεια, **841**), “contentment,
satisfaction with what one has,” is
found in 1 Tim. 6:6. ... -



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

CONTENTMENT IS ...

Being free from turmoil – a state of satisfaction with my worldly lot – at peace due to faith & trust in God, an attitude of “it is well.”

Without - worry, fear, anxiety, COMPETITION, (i.e., jealousy & envy)



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

CONTENTMENT IS ...

LUKE 3:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

CONTENTMENT IS ...

LUKE 12:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ And He said to them,
“Take heed and **beware of**
covetousness, for one’s life
does not consist in the
abundance of the things he
possesses.”



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

CONTENTMENT IS ...

HEBREWS 13:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶ So we may boldly say: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

CONTENTMENT IS ...

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

TO DEFINE

BENEFITS OF CONTENTMENT -

- * **CURRENT ENJOYMENT** — My joy is NOT dependent on my lot in this world to materially change
- * **CAN REJOICE WITH THOSE WHO REJOICE** — Without envy & jealousy, I can sincerely rejoice in the success' & achievements of others!
- * **GRATITUDE** — without contentment there cannot be true gratitude - I'm counting my blessings!!

HEBREWS 11:13 (NKJV)

¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

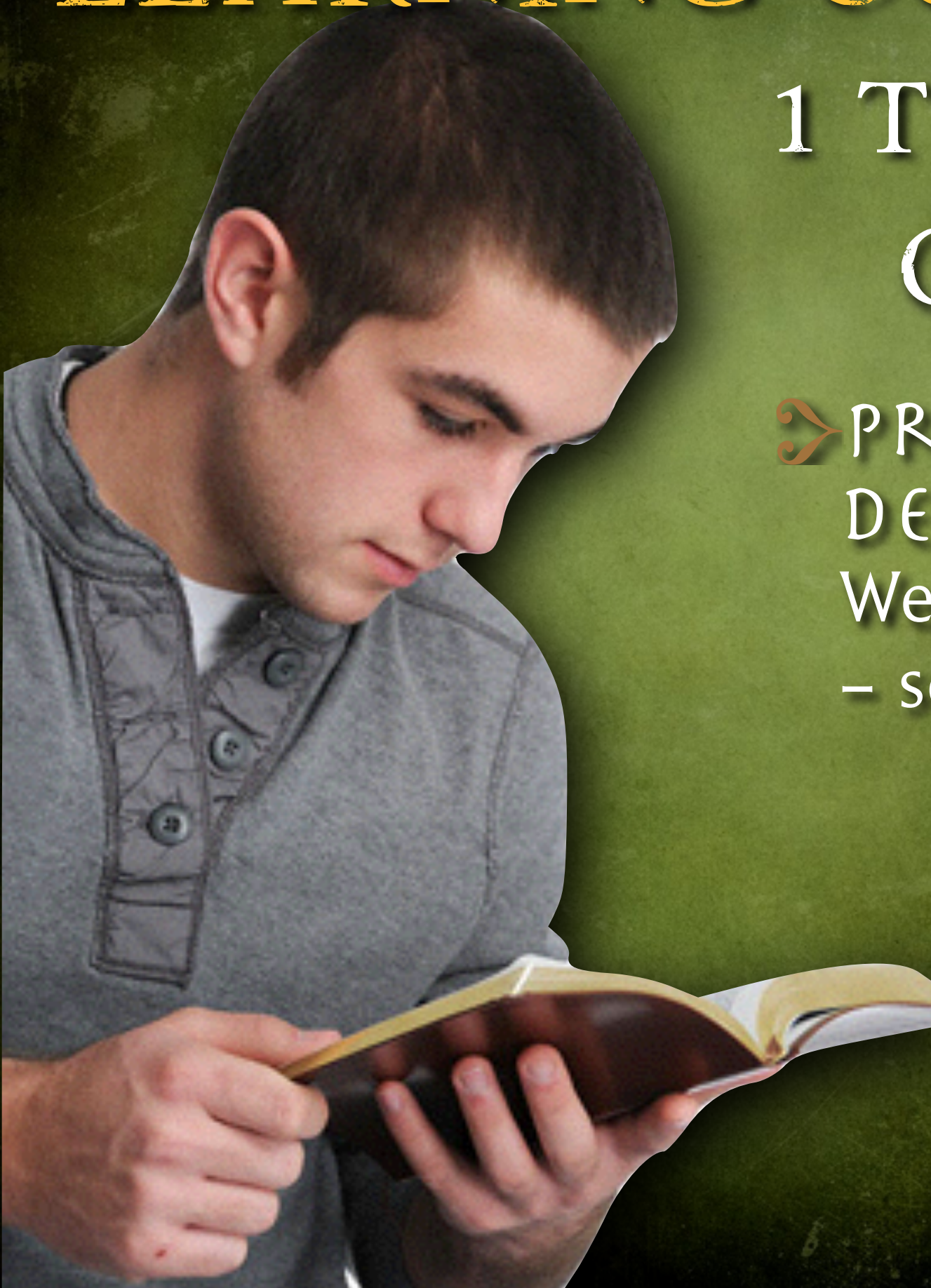
LEARNING CONTENTMENT

1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19

OUR NEED ...

➤ PREACHERS, ELDERS,
DEACONS, ETC. (EVERYONE),
We All need to learn contentment
– serving Christ is NOT a burden –

➤ TIMOTHY IS
INSTRUCTED IN THE
NEED FOR
CONTENTMENT (& to
teach others the same ...)



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

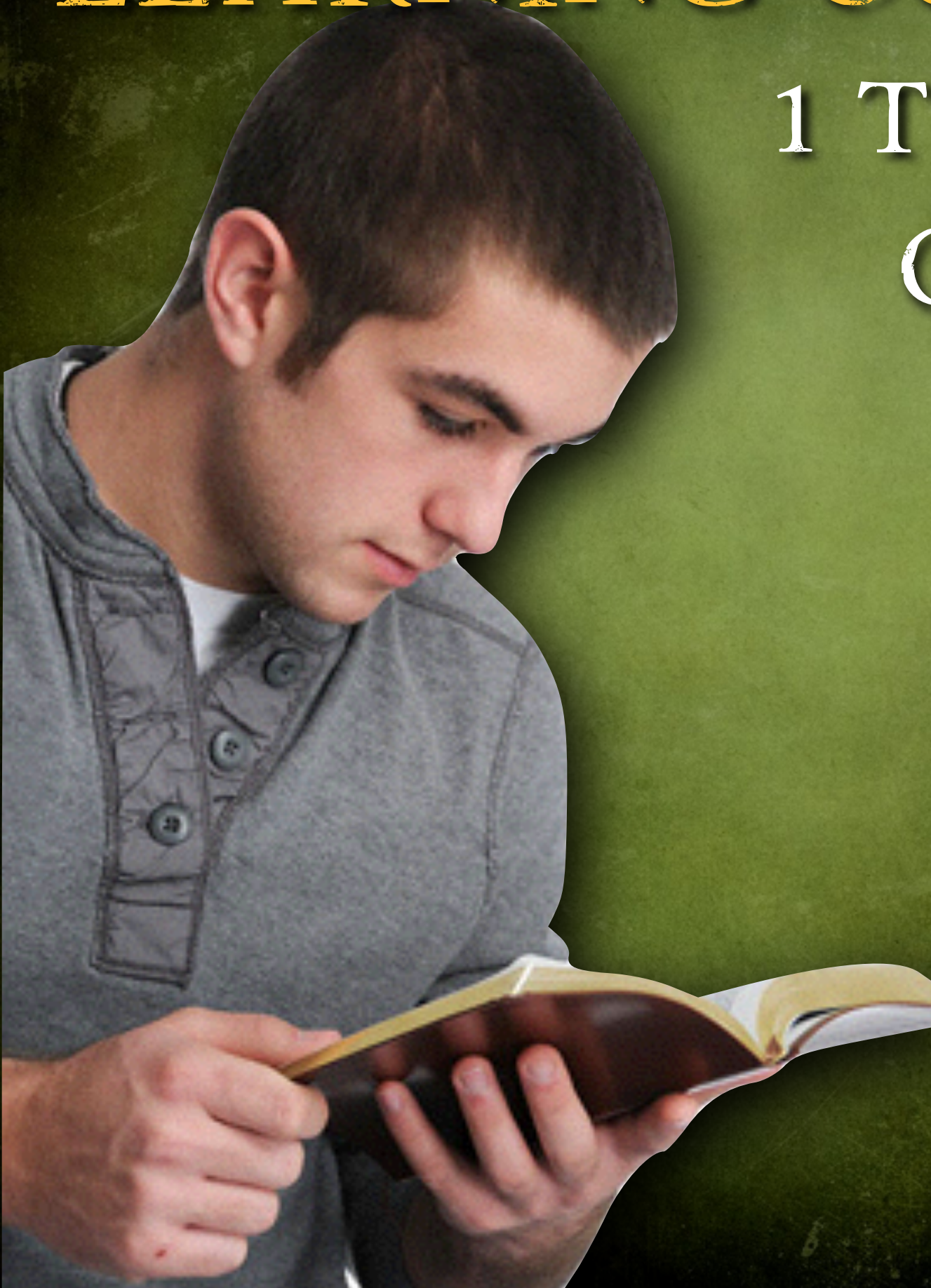
1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19

OUR NEED ...

➤ CONTENTMENT
WITH GODLINESS –

➤ CONTENTMENT &
WEALTH

➤ CONTENTMENT &
CHARACTER



1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19 (NKJV)

³ If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, ⁴ he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, ⁵ useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. ⁶ Now godliness with contentment is great gain.



1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19 (NKJV)

⁷ For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸ And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.



1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19 (NKJV)

¹¹ But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,



1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19 (NKJV)

¹⁴ that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, ¹⁵ which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.



1 TIMOTHY 6:3-19 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. ¹⁸ Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

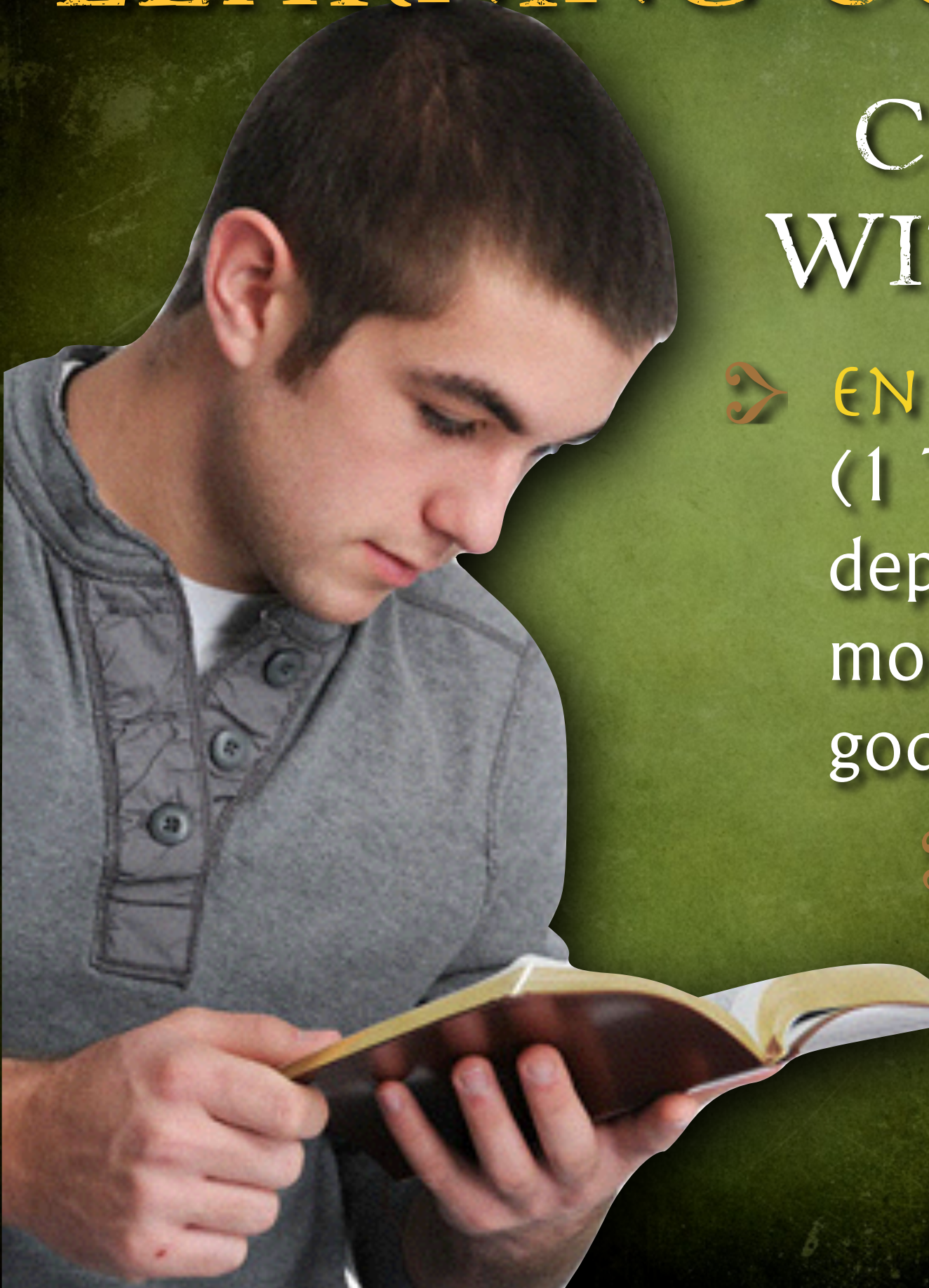


LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT WITH GODLINESS -

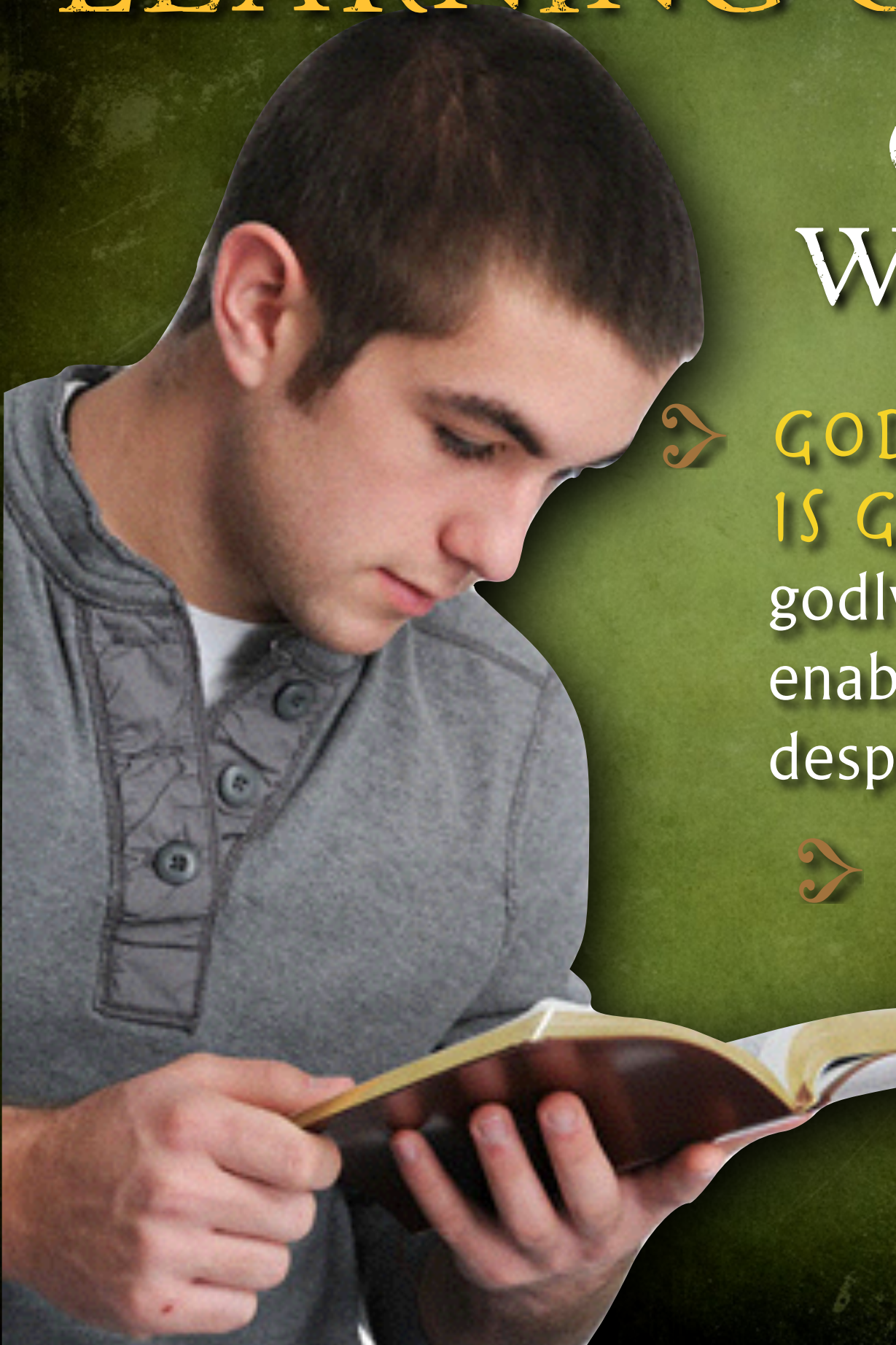
➤ **ENEMIES OF THE TRUTH** -
(1 Tim 6:3-5) - Always arguing -
depraved minds - greedy for
money - supposing that
godliness is a means of gain

➤ **CARNAL GAIN** -
Power / Rank / position /
Superiority / Control /
MONEY ... (cf 2 Pet 2:1-3)



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT WITH GODLINESS -

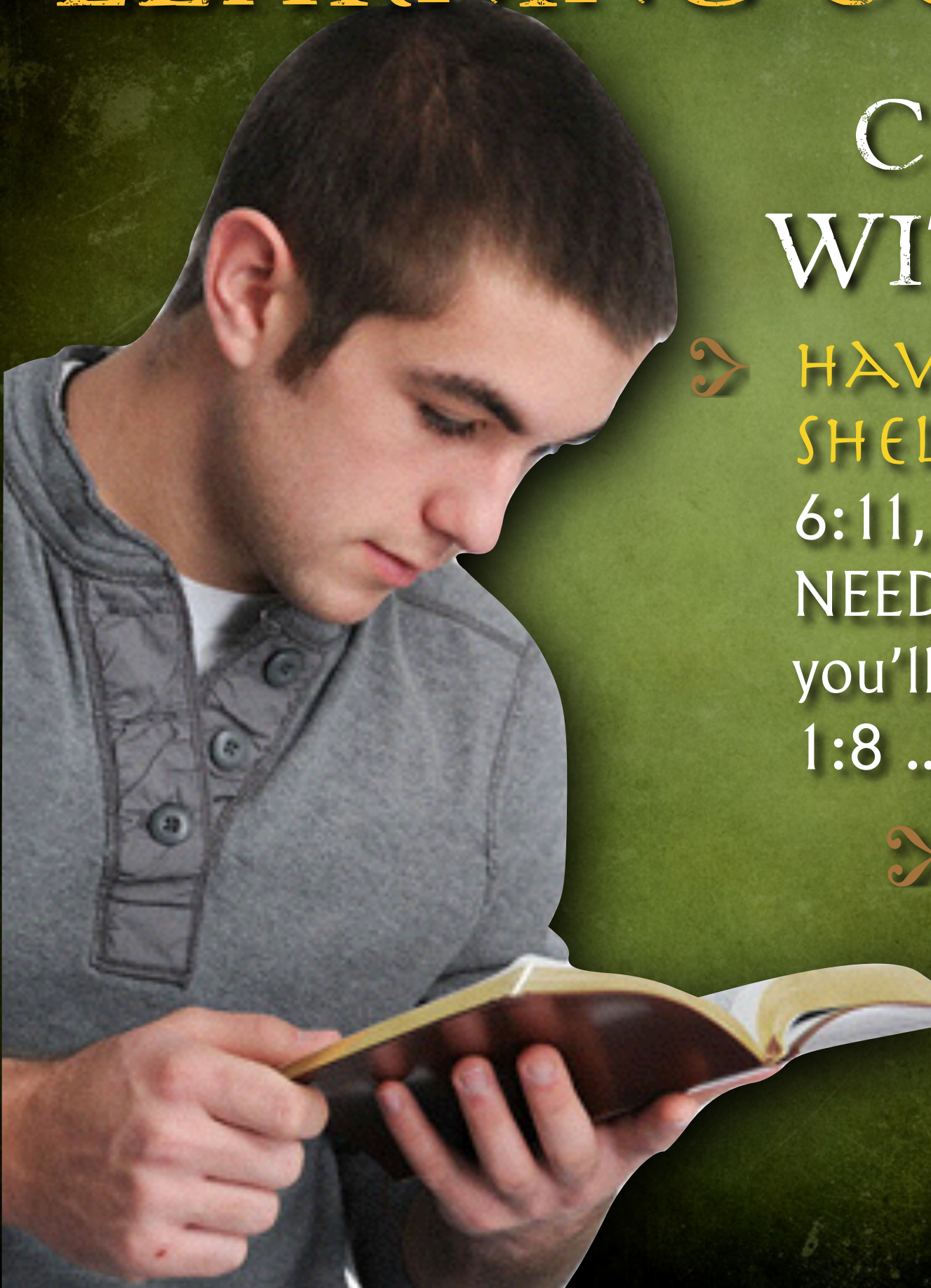
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- **GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT IS GREAT GAIN** — (vs. 6 cf 4:8) - godly piety, being satisfied with God - enabling one to remain patient & faithful despite material, earthly circumstances.
 - **WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE** - Mat. 6:19-24, 32, 33; Ro. 5:3-5; 8:28; 2 Co. 4:17, 18; 5:1; Phi. 1:21; He. 13:5; salvation, hope, joy, peace, All spiritual blessings - (Eph 1:3)

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT WITH GODLINESS -

➤ HAVING FOOD, CLOTHING & SHELTER IS ENOUGH ... (vs. 8; Mat. 6:11, 25–33. Heb 13:5, 6) - if you NEED these things in order to be happy you'll never find it!! (Prov 30:8,9; Eccl. 1:8 ... the eyes is never satisfied)

➤ WE BROUGHT NOTHING INTO THIS WORLD — (Vs 7 –... We will carry nothing out – [Job 1:21; Ec. 5:15, 16; Ps. 49:17; Lu. 12:20, 21; 16:22, 23])



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT & WEALTH - Vs 9,10,17-19

➤ WARNING FOR ALL THOSE
WHO WANT TO GET RICH -

✓ Vs 9 - (focused on gaining
financial, material wealth – Prov
28:20-22; Prov 20:21; 23:4,5)

- * Tumble into temptation
- * Fall into a trap
- * Many foolish & harmful desires
- * Ruin / Destruction

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT & WEALTH - Vs 9,10,17-19

➤ THE LOVE OF MONEY IS
THE ROOT OF ALL FORMS
OF EVIL - Vs. 10 -

- * False teaching - 2 Pet 2; Jude 11
- * Immoral behavior - Rev 2:14,15
- * Hurt others - Mat 26:15; Ja 5:1-4
- * Failure to worship - Amo 8:4-6
- * Failure to serve God - Mat 13:22
- * Compromise - 2 Tim 4:3
- * Neglected families - Eph 6:4

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT & WEALTH - Vs 9,10,17-19

➤ INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE WHO ARE RICH – Vs. 17-19

- * Don't be conceited –
- * Don't fix your hope on the uncertainty of riches but upon GOD – (do we possess our possessions or do our possessions possess us? - Mat 6:19)
- * Enjoy the things God has blessed us with - use them to God's glory

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT & WEALTH - Vs 9,10,17-19

➤ INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE WHO ARE RICH — Vs. 17-19

- * “Let them do good” - help others – be a servant - vs 18
- * “That they be rich in good works” - Get involved – working in the kingdom – helping & encouraging others.
- * “Ready to give, willing to share” - Be generous – giving to the Lord’s work - helping the poor - Act 4:36,37

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT & WEALTH - Vs 9,10,17-19

➤ INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE WHO ARE RICH — Vs. 17-19

- * 19 “Storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come,” - laying up treasures in heaven - Mat 6:19-21; Col 3:1-2
- * “That they may lay hold on eternal life.” - It is hard for a rich man to get into heaven - in fact, it is impossible for one who loves riches to enter heaven - Mat 19:23,24; Mk 10:24

LEARNING CONTENTMENT

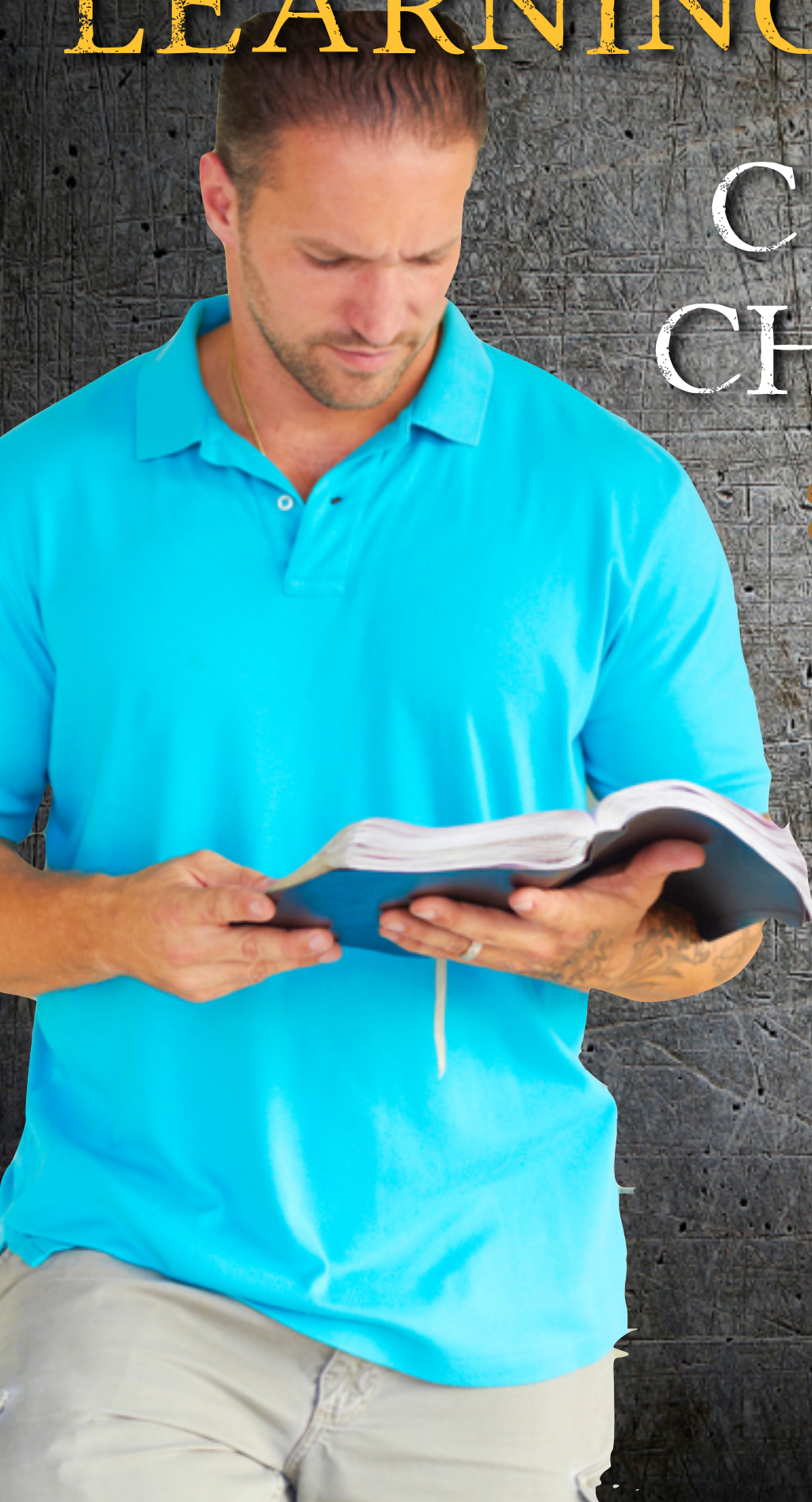
CONTENTMENT & CHARACTER - Vs 11-16

➤ THE OBJECTS WE VALUE & STRIVE FOR — Vs. 11,12; cf 2 Tim 2:22; Gal 5:22,23; 2 Pet 1:5-10; Tit 2:11,12

* **Righteousness** - treating others right, fairly - Being RIGHT before & with God - Rom 5:1; 6:16-18;

* **Godliness** - an attitude of piety, desiring to please God above all else -

* **Faith** - Strengthening our trust in God through His word - Rom 10:17



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

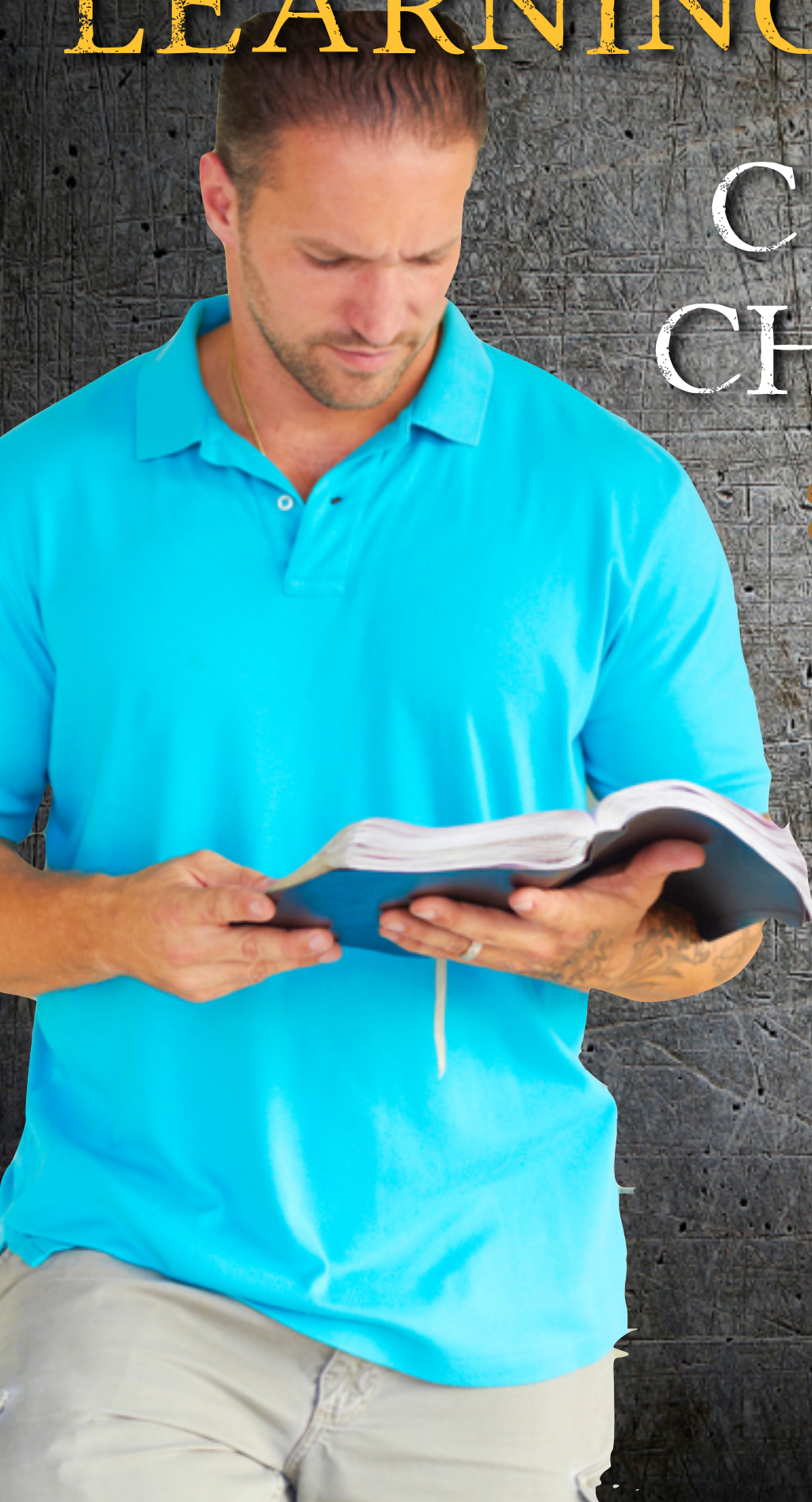
CONTENTMENT & CHARACTER - Vs 11-16

➤ FREE TO PURSUE THE OBJECTS WE
VALUE MOST - Vs. 11,12; cf 2 Tim 2:22;
Gal 5:22,23; 2 Pet 1:5-10; Tit 2:11,12

* Love - love to God and thy neighbor -
Mark 12:29-31

* Patience - a quiet bearing of injuries -
Eph 4:2; 1 Cor 13:7; Gal 6:2

* Meekness - a gentleness of spirit,
opposed to all rash anger - with which a
Christian acts towards those who wrong
him. - cf. 1 Pet 2:23

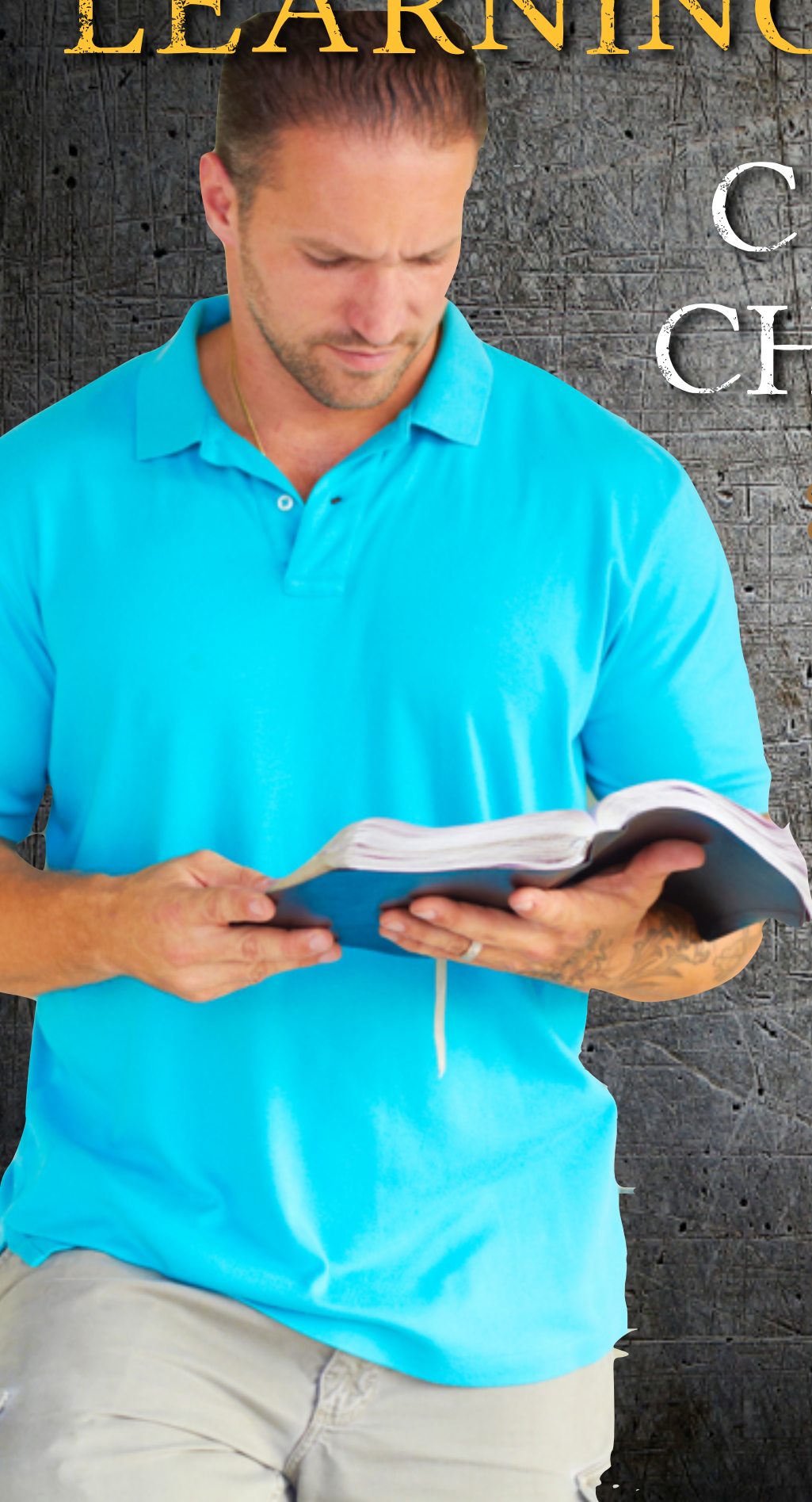


LEARNING CONTENTMENT

CONTENTMENT & CHARACTER - Vs 11-16

➤ **FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH** –
Vs. 11,12; cf 1:18; 4:7; 1Cor 9:24-26;
2 Cor 3:7; Eph 6:10-18)

- * **Lay hold on eternal life** - the crown of victory is held out to you - Seize this eagerly - for nothing is more valuable!
- * **Be faithful in your professed allegiance to the Lord Jesus** - a quiet bearing of injuries - 11-13; 1 Thes 2:12; Lk 12:8
- * **Focus on the glory & praise worthy of the Lord Jesus** - 14-16; Heb 12:1-3



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

➤ WE WILL NOT BE CONTENT IF

- * Earthly things, other than food, clothing & shelter, become essential to us ...
- * Having more money becomes a fixation – (some of the most envious & greedy are those who do not have money)
- * Selfishness is at the root of our character – (Many love things & use people instead of loving people & using things)



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

➤ I AM CONTENTED:

- * When I am grateful with what I have been blessed with
- * When I am generous/ i.e., a good steward of the things in my control
- * When my financial condition, my external circumstances, and even my physical condition is enough because I have God.
- * When God is enough!

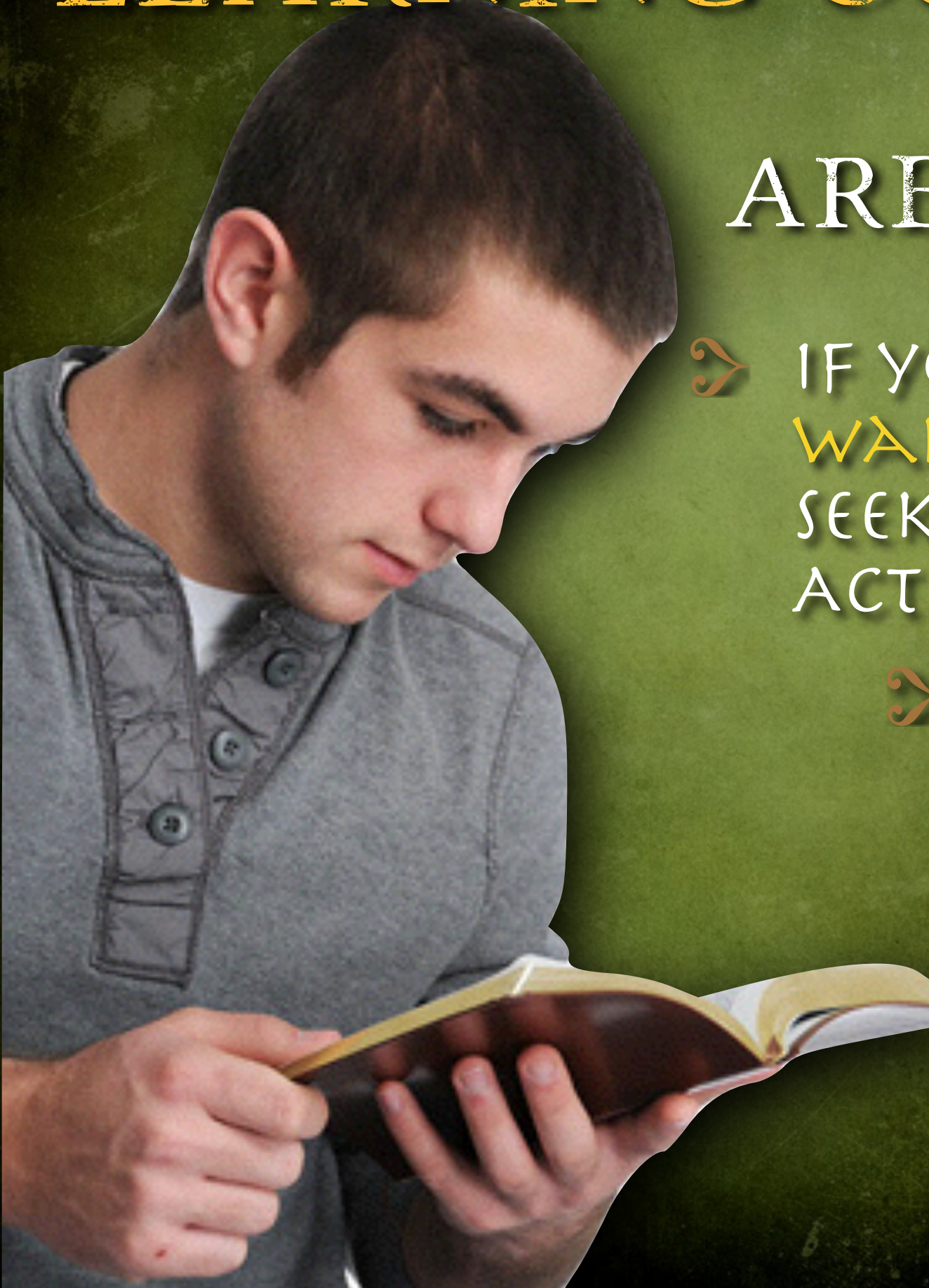


LEARNING CONTENTMENT

ARE YOU CONTENT?

➤ IF YOU ARE NOT A CHRISTIAN -
WAKE UP - BE CONCERNED -
SEEK & OBEY GOD - BE SAVED -
ACTS 2:38; 22:16

➤ IF YOU ARE NOT BEING
FAITHFUL TO GOD - WE
HOPE YOU ARE NOT
CONTENT - BUT WILLING
TO ZEALOUSLY SEEK
FORGIVENESS & SERVE THE
LORD - 1 JN 1:9; REV 3:19



LEARNING CONTENTMENT

Charts by Don McClain

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Preached July 5, 2015

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PHILIPPIANS 4:4-13 (NKJV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. ⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.



PHILIPPIANS 4:4-13 (NKJV)

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.



PHILIPPIANS 4:4-13 (NKJV)

⁹ The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰ But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:



PHILIPPIANS 4:4-13 (NKJV)

¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

