

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

(Godly Wisdom – Our Compass at the Crossroads of Life)

Part 23 – Choosing Godly Ambition

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1. Choose contentment over _____.

Philippians 4:11-13, “¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have **learned to be content whatever the circumstances**. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the **secret of being content in any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ **I can do all things through Christ** who gives me **strength**.”

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (NIV), “⁶ But **godliness with contentment is great gain**. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, **we will be content with that**.”

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV), “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be **arrogant** nor to put their **hope in wealth**, which is so **uncertain**, but to put their hope in **God**, who **richly provides** us with **everything for our enjoyment**. ¹⁸ **Command** them to do **good**, to be rich in **good deeds**, and to be **generous** and willing to **share**. ¹⁹ In this way they will **lay up treasure** for themselves as a firm foundation for the **coming age**, so that they may **take hold of the life that is truly life**.”

2. Choose generosity over _____.

Proverbs 11:24 (NLT), “**Give freely** and become **more wealthy**; be stingy and lose everything”

Proverbs 11:25 (GNT), “Be **generous**, and you will be **prosperous**. Help **others**, and you will be **helped**.”

Luke 12:15 (NIV), “¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against **all kinds of greed**; life does not consist in an **abundance of possessions**.”

Luke 12:15-21 (NIV), “¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ ¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain.’ ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. **Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.**” ²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ ²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever **stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God**.”

3. Choose _____ over selfish ambition.

James 3:16 (NLT), “For wherever there is jealousy and **selfish ambition**, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.”

Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV), “³ **Do nothing out of selfish ambition** or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

1 Chronicles 4:9-10 (NIV), “⁹ Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, “I gave birth to him in pain.” ¹⁰ Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “**Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory!** Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” **And God granted his request**.”

Psalms 35:27 (NASB), “May those shout for joy and rejoice, who take delight in my vindication; and may they say continually, “The LORD be exalted, **who delights in the prosperity of His servant**.”

Proverbs 10:4 (NIV), “Lazy hands make for poverty, but **diligent hands bring wealth**.”