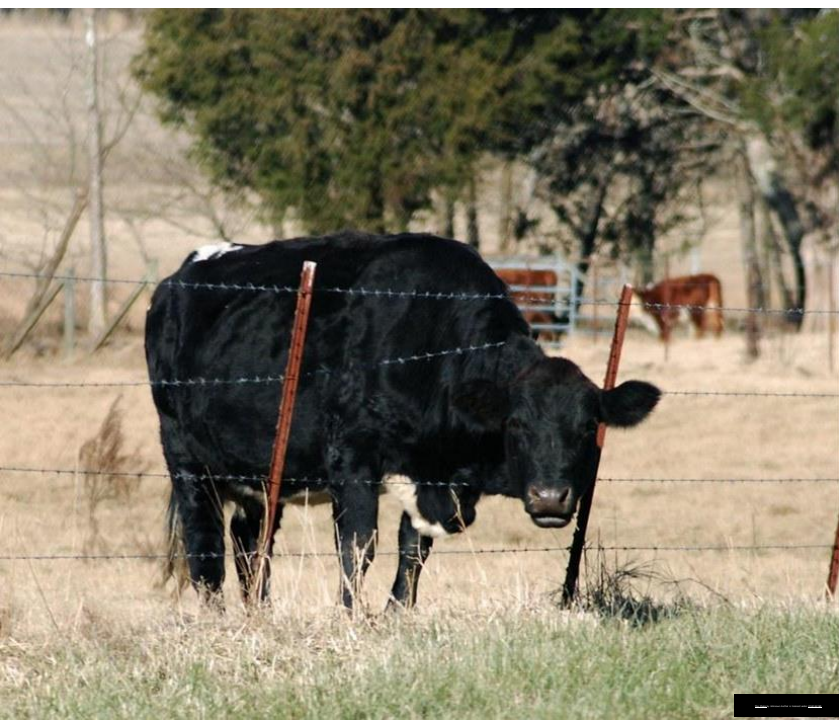




**THE GRASS IS  
ALWAYS GREENER ON  
THE OTHER SIDE.**

Proverb

[PICTUREQUOTES.COM](http://PICTUREQUOTES.COM)



# The Problem of Contentment



**1 CORINTHIANS:**  
CALLED OUT  TOGETHER



# 1 CORINTHIANS:

CALLED OUT TOGETHER



# 1 Corinthians 7:17-24

<sup>17</sup> Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. <sup>18</sup> Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. <sup>19</sup> For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God. <sup>20</sup> Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. <sup>21</sup> Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) <sup>22</sup> For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. <sup>23</sup> You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. <sup>24</sup> So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.



# 1 Corinthians 7:25-31

<sup>25</sup> Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. <sup>26</sup> I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. <sup>27</sup> Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. <sup>28</sup> But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that. <sup>29</sup> This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup> and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, <sup>31</sup> and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

**1 CORINTHIANS:**

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# Contentment:

1. What is it?
2. How do we typically go about getting it?
3. How do we really get it?
4. How does it change our lives?

# Contentment: What is it?

“Contentment”: The quality or state of being contented.

“Contented”: Feeling or showing satisfaction with one’s possessions, status, or station.

**1 CORINTHIANS:**

CALLED OUT  TOGETHER



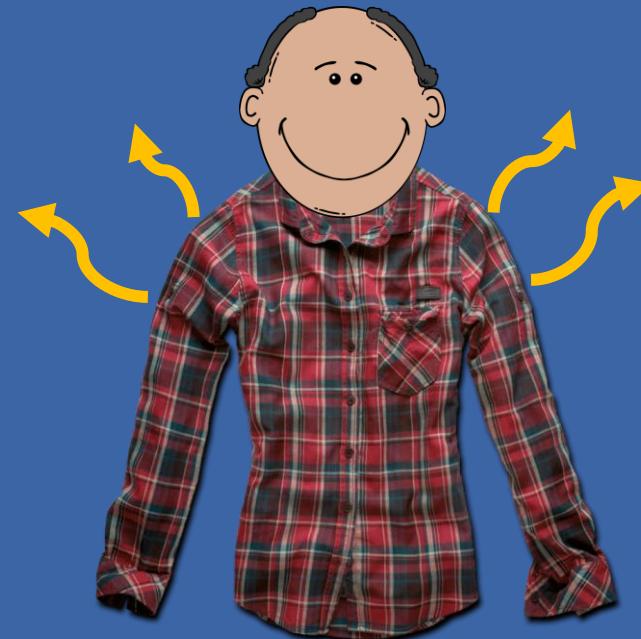
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Contented



Contentmen

Jeremiah  
Burroughs—*The  
Rare Jewel of  
Christian  
Contentment*

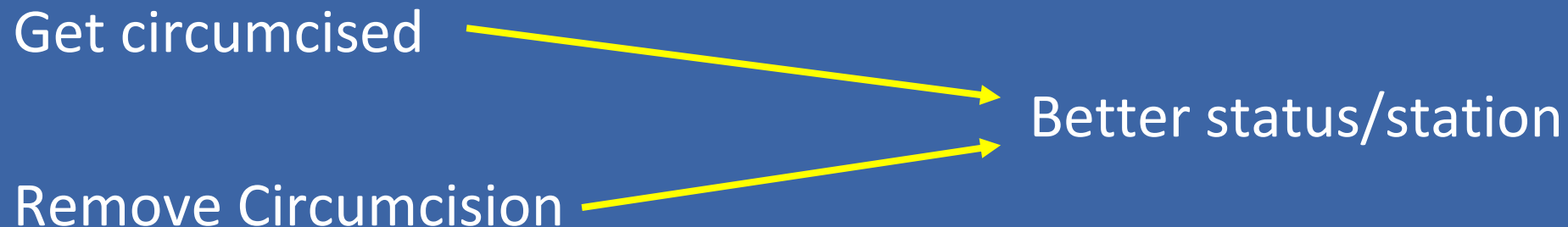
**1 CORINTHIANS:**  
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# Contentment: Our Typical Path

“Was anyone at the time of his call already **circumcised**? Let him not seek to remove the marks of his circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call **uncircumcised**? Let him not seek circumcision.”

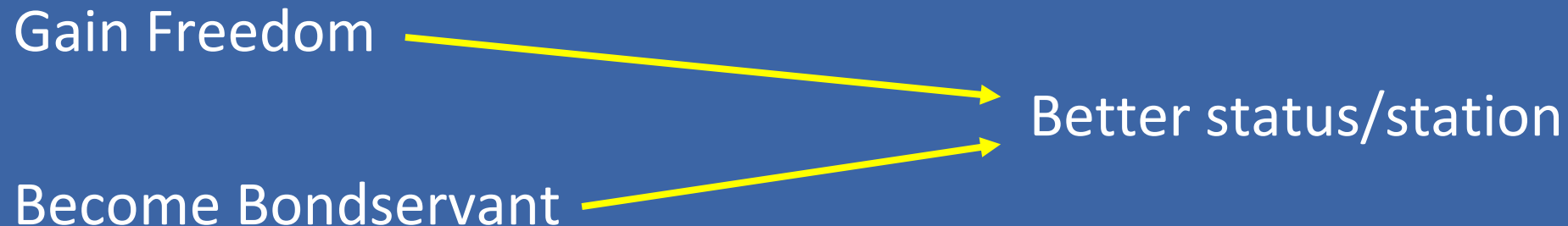
1 Corinthians 7:18-19



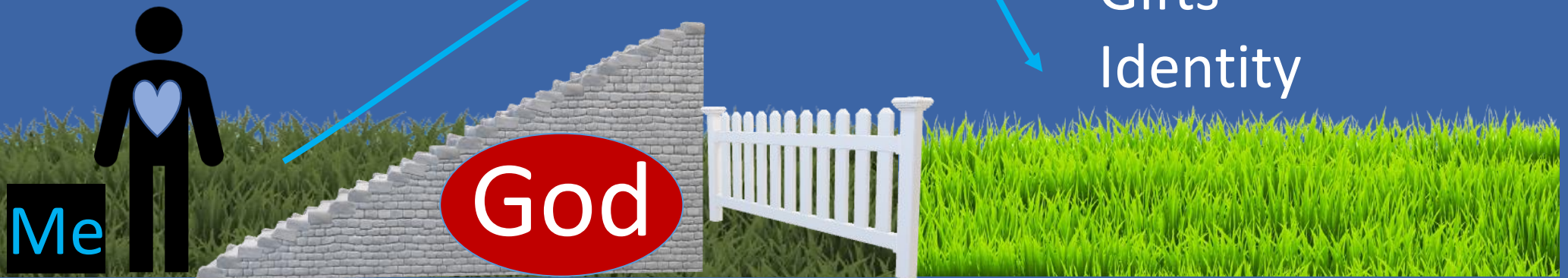
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1 Corinthians 7:21-23



# Contentment: Our Typical Path



Privileges  
Circumstances  
Gifts  
Identity

# Contentment: How Do We Really Get It?

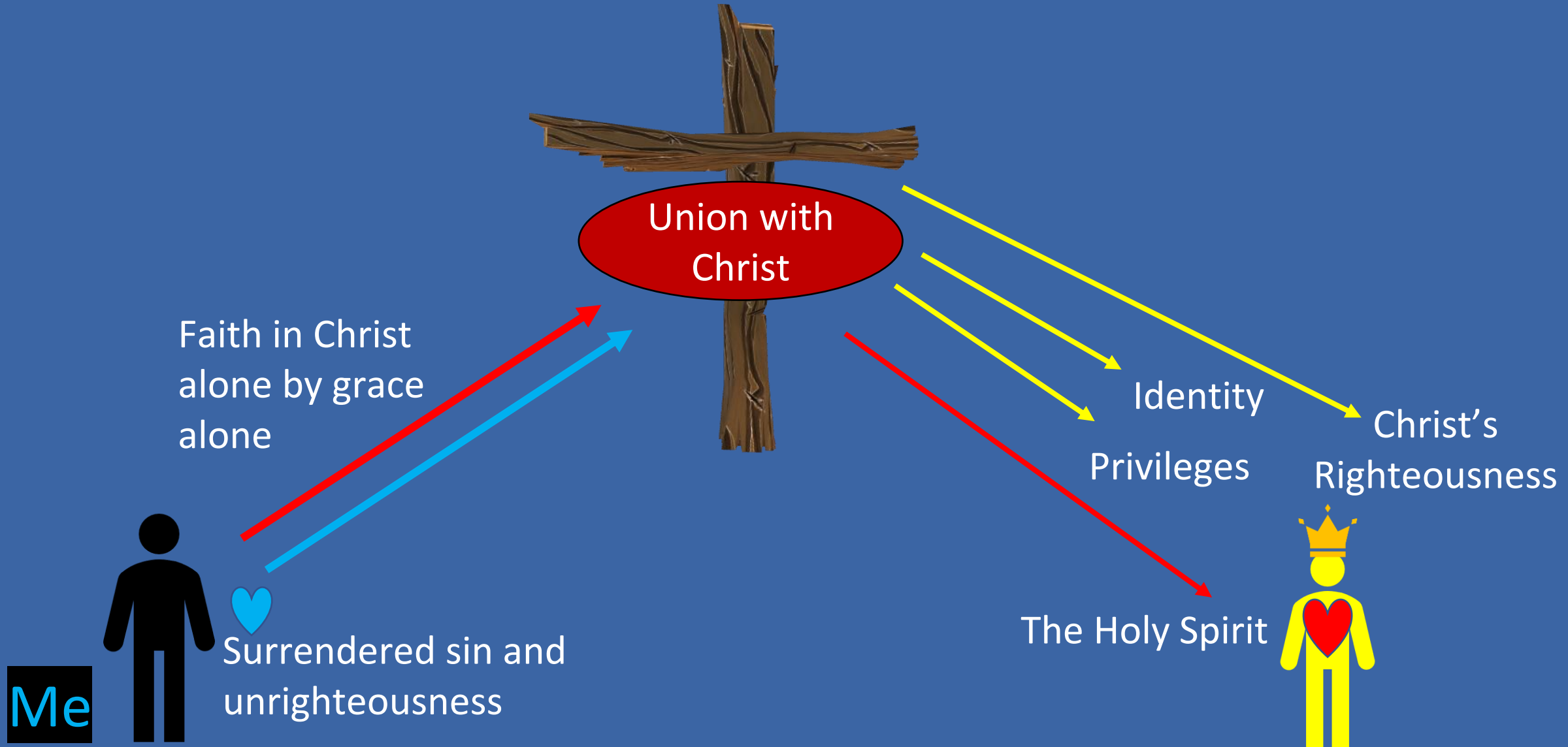
Paul's General Rule: "...In whatever condition each was called, there let him **remain** (*menō*) with God" (1 Corinthians 7:24).

**"menō"**: to remain, abide, sojourn, endure

**"Abide** (*menō*) in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abide** in me" (John 15:4).



# The Pattern of True Contentment



# Contentment: How Do We Really Get It?

“Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned **in whatever situation I am to be content**. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have **learned the secret** of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. **I can do all things through him who strengthens me.**”

Philippians 4:11-13



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CALLED OUT TOGETHER



# Contentment: How Does It Change Our Lives?



If you know that this life is all that you have, wouldn't you make the most of it?

— *Ayn Rand* —

AZ QUOTES



Appetizers vs. a Banquet Feast

# Contentment: How Does It Change Our Lives?



Appetizers vs. a Banquet Feast