

Introduction:

1. For the past two years, there has been a lot of talk concerning medicine. With the release of the COVID vaccine, people seem to talk more about medicine than ever before.
2. We understand the value of medicine. When our children are sick, we provide them OTC. When we go to the physician's office, we typically leave with a prescription.
3. Luke the physician certainly would have been aware of the value of medicine, Acts 27:2.
4. Yet there's another kind of medicine maybe we don't focus enough on as we should. In Proverbs 17:22, it says, "A joyful heart is good medicine. But a broken spirit dries up the bones." Other translations say (merry, cheerful and is like good medicine).
5. What does this kind of medicine have to do with honoring our families? Tonight, we're focused on bringing joy to our homes!
6. A lot of people today are crushed. Crushed because of gas prices, COVID, politics, finances, and more. As young people, how can you bring joy to your home? You may be thinking, "I don't have a job" or "I barely make any money."
7. There is something all of us can do to bring joy to our homes. Our joy is ultimately rooted in Christ. Our study begins in Proverbs 30:15-16. There's a kind of heart that will never bring joy to a home. Let's read it and then see what how we can bring joy to our homes.

The Lesson:

I. Discontentment Destroys Joy

- A. The Leech has two daughters: "Give," "Give."
 1. The leech will continue to suck blood. They are never satisfied.
 - a. Sheol or the grave is never satisfied. It will continue to accept more people.
 - b. The woman who can't have a child is not satisfied. She craves what she cannot have.
 - c. The earth no matter how much water may come will continue to absorb up water.
 - d. A fire never says "Enough." All we have to do is look at the fires in California.
 2. Are we like Leeches in that we are never satisfied?
- B. A lack of contentment will rob a family's time together and ultimately joy.
 1. God expects His people to be content with what He provides.
 2. Have you ever complained about not having stuff, despite having so MUCH STUFF?
 3. Have you been given a lot by your parents but still find yourself desiring more?
 4. Have you considered how you always wanting more makes your parents feel?
 5. Discontentment will destroy joy!

II. We Must Learn to be Content

- A. If we are going to experience joy in our homes, we will need to learn to be content.
1. Contentment is a learned behavior, Philippians 4:11-13.
 - a. Paul had to learn contentment himself. "His contentment was acquired, not inherited." Which means as parents, we must teach our children how to be satisfied.
 - b. Paul had experienced many humble means (poverty, persecution, imprisonment, isolation). He had also lived in prosperity (Roman citizen, student of Gamaliel).
 - c. The source of his strength was not whether everything was perfect. It was Christ. His contentment and joy came from Christ. It's how he could sing in prison, Acts 16:25.
Can we say the same? Can we be content even during the tough times?
- B. It's something we must acquire and learn along the way.

III. How do we do it?

- A. **Have LESS.** Americans have MORE and are not CONTENT, HAPPY, or JOYFUL. Are we?
1. The Proverbs says, "Better is a little..."
 - a. Proverbs 15:16: "Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and turmoil with it." **Fear God and keep His commandments. Respect your parents with your speech and conduct. That's how you can bring joy to the home, Proverbs 10:1.**
 - b. Proverbs 15:17: "Better is a dish of vegetables where love is than a fattened ox served with hatred." **If you have a little food or a few electronics with parents who love the Lord, you are blessed. Be satisfied knowing love reigns in the home and not hatred.**
 - c. Proverbs 16:8: "Better is a little with righteousness than great income with injustice." **Parents don't fall into the trap that if you work harder to give your kids more stuff that the joy will increase in your home. It will not. It will probably make things worse.**
 - d. Proverbs 17:1: "Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it than a house full of feasting with strife."
 2. Having LESS is WAY better than the alternative. Young people, you can bring joy by being wise and listening to God. You don't have to be a super athlete or a scholar student. Your parents will experience great joy with you following in the paths of Christ.
- B. **Have More Time Worshipping God.** God is the source of our joy. Worshipping Him brings joy.
1. It will bring joy because we will be reminded of how rich we already are.
 2. It will bring joy because we will be united more as family.
 3. It's something every young people can do. Your singing will bring your parents' joy.
 4. It will remind us of God's great promises to us.

Conclusion:

1. Can you bring joy to your home? Yes! Through your contentment, 1 Timothy 6:6-8.
2. You have everything you need in Christ.