

10 May 2020

To all members of the St James Traditional Services

**A Weekly Word of Encouragement: Contentment**

Today is Mother's Day, and I invite you to read Psalm 131 reflectively.

The famous preacher Charles Spurgeon said, "One of the shortest psalms to read, but one of the longest to learn."

Self-centredness and unruly ambition will always result in restless discontent. Putting self-interest first will ruin every close relationship in life. We find that lesson hard to learn.

A young baby needs the milk its mother can provide and loudly demands to be fed. There is nothing wrong with that, but it is a temporary state. Weaning moves a child to a new stage of maturity. A weaned child is content to be with its mother, enjoying her warmth, closeness and love above all else. No longer a baby crying out for its mother as a means of satisfying its own desires; learning to love her for her own sake; content just to be near her.

How often we approach God for what he can give, rather than desiring Him for Himself, resting in Him, enjoying being close to Him. Self-centred demanding is a sign of immaturity – we need to grow up. Quiet resting is a state of maturing trust.

The New Testament tells us:

"Godliness with contentment is great gain." (1 Timothy 6:6)

Be content with what you have because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5)

Go to Him now, through His Word and through prayer, and enjoy Him.

**Prayer:**

Lord, you understand all my needs and encourage me to bring all of them to You. Help me to experience the rest and quietness of simply being with You, enjoying You for who You are; content just to be in Your presence. Amen.

**Remember:**

- keep praying daily
- keep reading God's Word
- keep in touch with one another, and know that I am only a phone call away: 0438 455 493.

With Christian love,

Robert