We live in a time period and in a culture where spending money on ourselves is seen as good and necessary. Many people consider large amounts of credit card debt as acceptable. It is very easy to fall into the trap of materialism, which is to pursue more and more "stuff." That is something that the Bible warns us against. We have all heard the saying "you can't take it with you." Another statement I remember hearing was asked about a very wealthy man who had passed away. At his funeral some one asked "how much did he leave behind" and the wise answer which was given was "all of it." When things are hard in our local economy it is easy to loose sight of what the Bible says about this. Let's look at these verses together.

Hebrews 13:5-6 *(NIV) Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." [6] So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"*

Life Application Study Bible Notes: "We become content when we learn that God is really ALL we need. Christians who become materialistic are saying by their actions that God can not take care of them - or at least that he won't take care of them the way they want. Insecurity can lead to the love of money, whether we are rich or poor. The only antidote is to trust God to meet all our needs. How can we learn to be content? Seek to give away rather than to continue accumulating more; be thankful for what you have rather than resent what you're missing."

PRAYER: Lord, God I confess that many times I am not fully CONTENT with the way that You have blessed us. Lord, I want to learn more and more what it means to be Fully and Completely Satisfied in You. Help me to see that the things of this life really are temporary.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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