

## **FINDING YOUR SUFFICIENCY IN CHRIST**

James 4:8 ... "Draw near to God and he will draw hear to you."

Is there something in your life from which you get much pleasure, such as food, television, basketball, music, the beach? Is your joy rooted in your spouse, girlfriend, boyfriend, or best friend? There is nothing wrong in obtaining pleasure from things or people as long as it moral. But if things or people become your primary source of happiness and satisfaction, then you are settling for something far inferior to what Christ offers you.

If you are a born-again follower of Christ, but you do not find him sufficient, the problem is not that God does not care enough about you. The problem is in you and your attitude and lack of passion for Christ. Friendships require an investment of our time, a respect for other persons, and trust. Those are the steps you take to create human friendships, and those are the same steps needed to cultivate your friendship with Christ. Friendship with Christ does not happen automatically when you say "I do," to his offer of salvation. Getting saved does not alone result in perfect harmony with God. His promises to you do not flood your life automatically. Only when you mature in your faith and obey his instructions will you experience his rich blessings and provision.

Many believers become disillusioned with God because they do not see his blessings poured out over them. Others become frustrated when only a trickle of God's blessings touch their lives. They look at other believers and wonder why they are being blessed, but not themselves. They then look for blessings from other sources such as movies, the Internet, friends, liquor, gambling, adultery, crime or drugs. The pleasures of the world may please for a moment, but end in loneliness, pain or suffering.

Sufficiency in Christ is totally possible, but it requires some effort on your part. His blessings do not automatically pour out like water from a faucet. A faucet cannot produce water until a source of water is found and it is plumbed (a pipe is connected between the source and the faucet). Our relationship with Christ is similar. God is the only reliable source of blessings. However, your connection to God must be plumbed before blessings can flow. Your connection to God is made firm when you obey him, forgive others, worship him, and serve him. He is ready and willing to provide everything you need. But, if the connection between you and him is rusty, leaking, or broken, blessings cannot flow.

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