



You've already got a great list for this—on your paper airplane!

Take a minute to read everything you and your family wrote down. They probably came up with some ideas you hadn't thought about, right?

Write three or four of things down that you maybe didn't expect.

Four horizontal lines for writing.

NOW FILL IN WHAT JESUS SAID IN YOUR MEMORY VERSE, LUKE 12:15.

"_____! Be on your _____ against wanting to have more and more _____. _____ is not made up of how much a person has." (NIV)

If you ever find yourself struggling to be content with what you have, remember that life isn't about things. It's about your relationships with people. Also, there's something simple you can do whenever you feel discontented. Spend some time thinking about what you do have—just like you did with the airplane. Think about what's good in your life right now. Focus on what God is doing in your life. Concentrate on what you've already got instead of wishing for what you don't have.

Contentment is never easy. But if you want to live a content and satisfied life, you can decide to be okay with what you have. The choice is yours!



LIVE FOR GOD

contentment

Day 1

READ EXODUS 16:2-21; 17:1-7

Do the Israelites drive you a little crazy in this story?

It's easy for us to look at them and think, "Why couldn't they just be grateful for what God had given them? Why couldn't they be thankful for all the ways He was guiding them, protecting them, and leading them to a new land?"

But remember—they weren't in that good land yet. They were in the middle of a desert. They were hungry and thirsty. Those were real, actual problems that would have seemed kind of brutal at the time. No wonder they complained! Wouldn't you have been tempted to do the same thing?

The problem was, they just couldn't stop and see what God was doing right then and there. When He provided what they needed, they didn't choose to be thankful. They just went on complaining about the next thing.

How can you avoid that? How can you stay thankful and pay attention to what God is doing in your life? He might not be dropping flakes of manna from the sky and sending you quail to eat at night but He's providing for you in all kinds of ways—some that you might not even realize.

Instead of looking back at the way things were, or wishing things could be different, you've got to choose to be thankful each day. You've got to pay attention to what God is doing, right where you are!



PRETEEN WEEK 4

HEAR FROM GOD

DAY 2

Finish the sentences below.

I CAN'T WAIT TO _____

SOMEDAY I'LL _____

WHEN I HAVE MY DRIVER'S LICENSE, I _____

Was it easy to come up with some answers? It's pretty simple for us to dream about how things *could* be. We like to look ahead to the future just as much as we like to reminisce about good times in the past.

Why? Well, if we live "in the moment," then we have to trust God. We know we can't go back and we can't see the future. We have to leave it up to Him to be in control of those things.

The only FOMO (fear of missing out) that really matters is if you miss out on what God is doing in your life. Don't miss how He's working in you—inside and out. He's helping you grow in your faith and helping you grow closer to Him, every single day!

When you pray, ask God to help you see what He's doing in your life right now.

PRAY
TO GOD

DAY 3

Sometimes the best way to remember all the good things you have is to hear from other people.

HERE'S SOMETHING YOU CAN DO AS A FAMILY.

1. Make a paper airplane.
2. Make sure it flies really well.
3. Throw it at your brother. (Wait—not yet.)
4. On the airplane, write down something you're thankful for—something that's good in your life right now.
5. Tell everyone in your family about your plan: for the rest of the day, you'll take turns writing something good on the airplane and then throwing it to the next person. Then they write something good, and so on and so on.
6. Write, throw, and repeat!

TALK
ABOUT GOD