Proverbs 14:30, "It's healthy to be content, but envy will eat you up." (CEV)

Ecclesiastes 6:9 "It's better to enjoy what we have than to always want something else, because that makes no more sense than chasing the wind." (CEV)

THE EFFECTS OF ALWAYS WANTING MORE

Proverbs 27:20 "Human desires are like the world of the dead—there is always room for more." (GNT)

1. Wanting more brings more FATIGUE.

   Proverbs 23:4 "Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit." (NLT)

2. Wanting more brings more EXPENSES.

   Ecclesiastes 5:11 "The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what good is wealth—except to watch it slip through your fingers!" (NLT)

3. Wanting more brings more ANXIETY.

   Ecclesiastes 5:12 "Workers may or may not have enough to eat, but at least they can get a good night's sleep. The rich, however, have so much that they stay away worrying." (GNT)

4. Wanting more brings more CONFLICT.

   Proverbs 15:27 "The greedy bring ruin to their households, but the one who hates bribes will live." (NIV)

5. Wanting more brings more DISSATISFACTION.

   Ecclesiastes 5:10 "Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!" (NLT)

HOW TO LEARN TO BE CONTENT

Philippians 4:12 "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content** in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want." (NIV)

1. Stop COMPARING MYSELF to others.

2 Corinthians 10:12 "Of course we would not dare classify ourselves or compare ourselves with those who rate themselves so highly. How stupid they are! They make up their own standards to measure themselves by, and they judge themselves by their own standards!" (GNT)

Exodus 20:17 "You must not covet your neighbor's house. You must not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female servants, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor." (NLT)

2. ENJOY what I have!

Ecclesiastes 5:19 "And it is a good thing to receive wealth from God and the good health to enjoy it. To enjoy your work and accept your lot in life—this is indeed a gift from God." (NLT)

Ecclesiastes 6:9 "Enjoy what you have rather than desiring what you don't have. Just dreaming about nice things is meaningless—like chasing the wind." (NLT)

3. Remember life is NOT ABOUT THINGS.

Luke 12:15 "Then Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." (NIV)

Proverbs 30:7-9 "[7] O God, I beg two favors from you; let me have them before I die. [8] First, help me never tell a lie. Second, give me neither poverty nor riches! Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. [9] For if I grow rich, I may deny you and say, "Who is the Lord?" And if I am too poor, I may steal and thus insult God's holy name." (NLT)

4. Focus on what will LAST FOREVER.

2 Corinthians 4:18 "So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever." (NLT)

Matthew 6:19-20 "[19] Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. [20] Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal." (NLT)

5. Find fulfillment IN THE LORD.

2 Corinthians 12:9 "But He said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you**, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." (NIV)

1 Timothy 6:17 "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to **put their hope in God**, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment." (NIV)

Luke 12:21 "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God." (NLT)

BOTTOM LINE

Philippians 4:12 "[12] I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content** in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. [13] **I can do all things through Him who gives me strength**." (NIV)

1 Timothy 6:6 "… true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth." (NLT)