

# Are You Satisfied?

By: Lenny Chapman

Are you satisfied with who you are? God has made each person unique and He continues to create everyone a little different. Maybe what God sees as unique we do not? A recent study showed that 89% of 4,000 people polled said that they were dissatisfied with their personal appearance, and would like to change at least one thing to improve their situation.



Physically there are those who change for uniqueness, altering their physical appearance through body piercing, body art (tattoos), or constant bold hair color changes. We also have a group who make changes using plastic surgeries to keep their “youthful looks.” This multi-billion-dollar industry has become very attractive to the masses over the years making elective surgeries a top segment in the medical field today. I think it is evident that there are plenty who are not satisfied with their physical appearance and would like to improve through change.

What about with your place in life, are you satisfied with that? It seems that plenty are also not satisfied with where they are in life. This is understandable as we live in the “place of opportunity.” Recently, I read an article stating that in the workplace 47% of “top performers” consistently look for better employment opportunities, while only 18% of “poor performers” are looking to change. On the flip-side of this, some employers have been instituting programs called the 10-80-10 Program. This program puts forth the effort to try and keep the top 10% of performers happy. This program then considers the next 80% as acceptable workers, placing a priority focus on trying to change (improve) or “re-circulate” the bottom 10% of performers.

Yes, efforts to improve whether it be physically, financially, or mentally are accomplished through change. This is part of our life whether we want to admit it or not. To be content, as the apostle Paul explained, is a position all Christians should take. **“Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:”** (Phil. 4:11) However, to put forth efforts in continual improvement is acceptable in many areas by God. Unfortunately, people put forth much effort to improve the areas of life THEY want to improve, and very little effort is put forth to improve areas where God would desire to see improvement.

Let us consider our service to God. With all the planned improvements we have, how many directly influence an improvement in our service to God? I am sad to say that some improvements can actually take away from one’s service to God. For example, career advancements can include training, studies, or just additional work hours that take the place of mid-week services. Vacations to “improve” the family’s outlook on life include non-stop “fun” activities that sometimes do not leave time to seek out the local body of the Lord’s church for scheduled services. Planned improvements **should** center on “how it will help our service to God.”

We all have the same amount of time in each day. It is how the minutes are utilized as to how much one will accomplish in a day. Jesus said to, **“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”** (Mat. 6:33). This verse is very easy to understand and needs to be implemented in the Christian’s daily plans and activities. We are to improve in areas such as our knowledge of the Lord and that is why Paul directed Timothy to **“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”** (2Tim. 2:15). Paul also explained, **“For bodily exercise profits a little,**

***but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.***” (1Tim. 4:8).

As we make our personal improvements, let us always include God in our plans. If the improvement does not help us serve God better, is it really an improvement?