

Morality Ch. 2 Notes

II Happiness is....

A. The Challenge Is

1. Happiness is our true good, but it is hard to find.
2. A happy person is not someone who denies the goodness of the world.
3. As people of faith we will be happy only when
 - a. We possess the greatest possible good in the deepest possible way.
 - b. Learning to love all good things in all the right ways.

B. Ingredients for a Happy Life

1. What is it that makes you happy?
2. What does our society tell us we need in order to be happy?
3. Does money make people happy?
 - a. Money is not enough to give us all the happiness we need.
 - b. Wealth is not a powerful enough good to draw us more fully to life.

C. The Pleasure Trap

1. Is pleasure enough to keep us happy?
2. The secret of happiness is to learn to love something that will bring us lasting joy.
3. What is needed for happiness?

D. Finding Happiness

1. Do we need God to be happy?
 - a. Some people see God as a controller not the loving caring God he is.
 - b. Worldly things only give us happiness for a short time.
2. To what do we give our hearts?

E. The unexpected answer.

1. Jesus gives us eight ways to happiness in the Beatitudes.
2. Jesus said, “Love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all our mind.
3. Love your neighbor as yourself.
4. Only in God is there the love and goodness we need to satisfy our hearts and fulfill our spirits.
5. Only God can heal our incompleteness and bring us peace and joy forever.
- 6. Without God we cannot have real happiness.**

F. A covenant the Promises and challenges

1. A covenant is a special agreement that binds one person or group to another person or group.
2. The Ten Commandments are a covenant.
 - a. Founded upon natural law
 - b. If Israelites were faithful, they would enjoy the happiness and prosperity promised by God.
3. We are made for God, and we prosper and have life only when we live in friendship with him.
4. We are happy when we love God.
5. We find happiness when we are faithful God and obey his laws.
6. The covenant and the commandment tell us that we will be happy when we choose goodness.