**Stay Full** 

***Opening Scripture***

***Genesis 15:1 NKJV***

***After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.”***

Intro: What is it like to be truly satisfied? The business men, retail chains, restaurants, and other for-profit businesses of this world will have you to believe that, if only you partake of their product you will be satisfied. Often times companies sell their products with a satisfaction guarantee, meaning that if you use their product and are not satisfied with it you can get your money back.

However, how many of you know that if all the products that we have consumed **truly satisfied us,** the world of marketing would not be as successful as it is. For example, if we were **truly satisfied**, with the last television we bought we wouldn’t be impressed by the next Best Buy ad that advertised $400 dollars off the new Curved LED TV. Or, if we were **truly satisfied**, we would not be moved when we see the newest F150 or newest Cadillac Escalade. The reality is this, any good marketing agent will tell that in order to sell a product you have to first create a sense of lack in the mind of the consumer, in order to create a need for the product. Then, the sales person explains how their product can fulfill your need and then the sales person draws you in to make the sale.

This strategy of creating a Sense of Lack in the heart and mind of man

is not a new strategy. In fact, this strategy is one that was used by our adversary (the serpent) in the Garden of Eden over 600o years ago to tempt mankind into disobedience to God’s Word. Of course, his motivation for this is deeper than trying to sell more hamburgers or TVs, the enemy’s motive is to steal, kill, and destroy.

(Expound on the verses, Identifying the verbal attacks that created the Sense of Lack- Attack the integrity of God’s Word, God’s character, God’s love for them…)

*Genesis 3:1-7 NLT*

*The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?” [2] “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. [3] “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’” [4] “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. [5] “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.” [6] The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. [7] At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.*

Focus Statement: My goal tonight is to remind you where **True Satisfaction** comes from…**(Finding True Satisfaction is a Key to living a life that is resistant to temptation)**

**A Key to True Satisfaction: Spending Time In the Presence of God**

*Psalm 27:4-6 NLT*

*The one thing I ask of the LORD— the thing I seek most— is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, delighting in the LORD’s perfections and meditating in his Temple. [5] For he will conceal me there when troubles come; he will hide me in his sanctuary. He will place me out of reach on a high rock. [6] Then I will hold my head high above my enemies who surround me. At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy, singing and praising the LORD with music.*

* Identify ways to spend time in His presence: Prayer (conversation with Him), Meditating on and Studying the Word of God, Listening to the Word of God Taught and Preached, Singing songs of Praise and Worship-During a church service and by yourself
* Expound on the value of meditation on who God is and how God He has been-whatever we focus on takes priority in our lives

*Mark 4:24-25 NLT*

*Then he added, “Pay close attention to what you hear. The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given— and you will receive even more. [25] To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what little understanding they have will be taken away from them.”*

* Reinforce previous points with preceding scripture

**A Major Benefit of Spending Time in God’s Presence is that it fills us with gratitude, which serves as a powerful safeguard against temptations of the flesh.**

**Illustration: Contrast the success of selling fundraiser doughnuts or candy bars outside of Golden Coral versus selling outside of the Shipyard or Smithfield Packing Plant**

**Godliness with Contentment**

*1 Timothy 6:6-10 NLT*

*Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. [7] After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can’t take anything with us when we leave it. [8] So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. [9] But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. [10] For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.*

* Expound on how these verses identify the danger in lusting after carnal things as opposed to living a life where you are satisfied with what you have
* Explain the difference between contentment and complacency, noting how in Christ I can truly enjoy where I am and trust that God’s desire for me to experience His best is above and beyond all I can ask or think

*Psalm 28:6-9 NLT*

*Praise the LORD! For he has heard my cry for mercy. [7] The LORD is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving. [8] The LORD gives his people strength. He is a safe fortress for his anointed king. [9] Save your people! Bless Israel, your special possession. Lead them like a shepherd, and carry them in your arms forever.*