



What is Enough?*

By Sharla Fritz

Heavenly Father, help me to trust You with all my desires. Because I know Your true nature of goodness, this should be easy, but sometimes I doubt. Enable me to lay all my longings on Your altar, knowing that You will satisfy them in the best way possible. In Jesus' name. Amen.

What is enough? The human race has always struggled with finding equilibrium between “not enough” and “too much.” Satan, the world, and our own human nature continually make us yearn for more, waging war against “enough.” When I was growing up, the commercial that interrupted my favorite television shows told me, “No one can eat just one.” And it was true — one potato chip was never enough. I always wanted another — and another — and another.

This insatiable desire for more doesn't stop with salty snacks. I'm convinced that ever since Adam and Eve gave in to an appetite for forbidden fruit and a thirst to be like God, we have been stuck with broken “wanters.” The part of us that hungers and thirsts and desires developed serious defects in the fall. I possess a wanter that can make me crave a huge slice of chocolate cheesecake even after I've had soup, salad, and an enormous platter of chicken marsala, and make me long for those adorable red pumps in the shoe store window even though I have twenty-five pairs of shoes in the closet. Our broken wanters prevent us from attaining enough.

Jesus knew about our broken wanters. He saw our tendency toward greed and covetousness. He understood our constant drift toward excess and overindulgence. In Luke 12, He told a story about a rich man who had a problem with enough.

Two thousand years later, this story still rings true, and Jesus could have inserted my name. I don't have any barns or silos in my backyard, but I have had the same thoughts. Though God has never let me go hungry, and though I've always had enough money to pay the bills, I have reasoned, “If I only had more, then I would be satisfied.” So how can we “find enough” in a world that constantly tells us we need more?

Read **Luke 12:13–21**. State the lesson of the parable of the rich fool in your own words. _____

How are you like the rich man? How are you different? _____

When does the rich man think he will be happy (verses 18–19)? _____

How would you define “enough” in your life? _____

Read **Luke 12:22–34**. Write the lesson of Jesus' teaching in your own words. _____

According to this passage, how do we normally react to not having enough food or clothing (verse 22)? _____

How does this relate to the rich man's reaction in the parable? _____

Can you think of a period in your life when you felt satisfied — when you thought, “Now I have enough”? Describe what life looked like in that moment. How were you able to say those words? _____

Now describe a time in your life when you definitely did not have enough. What was happening? How did you cope? How did God come through? _____

O God of Sufficiency, Thank You for reminding me that You are the God of plenty. You are the good Father who sees my needs. You tell me You are pleased to give me the kingdom — more than I can imagine. Fill my soul with joy and peace. Amen.

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