Living Simply: A Child's Heart in a Greedy World



Explore how children teach us to avoid greed and embrace simplicity through trusting God and valuing what truly matters.





Table of contents

<u>Introduction</u>	3
<u>Day 1: O Childlike Trust and Simplicity</u>	4
Day 2: TGGuarding the Heart Against Greed	10
Day 3: Finding Joy in Simple Gifts	16
Day 4: C Learning Generosity from Children	22
Day 5: Contentment in Every Season	28
Day 6: X Seeing Value Beyond Possessions	34
Day 7: Fembracing a Child's Heart Every Day	40







Introduction

Children have a unique way of seeing the world — often with wonder, trust, and an uncluttered heart. In today's fast-paced, consumer-driven society, *greed* and the desire for more can easily overshadow the beautiful simplicity of life. This 7-day study explores what the Bible teaches about embracing the gentle, humble, and content spirit exemplified in childhood while steering clear of greed and materialism.

Jesus Himself reminds us in **Matthew 18:3** that unless we become like children, we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven. This call invites us back, not just to innocence, but to a posture of reliance, simplicity, and purity of heart. Children's needs are straightforward; they highlight trust over possession and love over accumulation.

Throughout this study, we will reflect on Scriptures that encourage us to unclench our fists from greed and open our hands to God's provision and grace. We'll delve into how living simply can deepen our relationship with God and enrich our daily lives, minimizing distractions that wealth and excess can bring.

Join this journey to rediscover joy in simplicity, learn lessons from the children around us, and cultivate a heart that trusts God fully—free from the heavy chains of greed.

















Day 1: O Childlike Trust and Simplicity

Your Verse

Matthew 18:3 - "And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."
- Psalm 131:2 "But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content."







Day 1: O Childlike Trust and Simplicity

Devotional: Embrace Childlike Trust to Overcome Greed

Trust and simplicity define a child's heart. Unlike adults, children often take things at face value without suspicion or the complicating factors of greed or desire for more. Jesus highlights this quality, encouraging us to *become like little children* to enter the kingdom of heaven. This transformation means laying aside complexity and skepticism and adopting a simple, trusting faith.

When life becomes entangled in wanting more possessions or status, our trust in God's provision can falter. But a child's faith is often straightforward: if someone says they will meet a need or keep a promise, the child believes it fully. When we learn to trust God with that same childlike abandon, greed loses its grip over us. We learn to rest content, knowing His care is sufficient.

Reflect today on your own heart—are you embracing a spirit of trust and simplicity? Or has greed clouded your view of God's provision? Allow yourself to let go and take a step toward that childlike faith.







Day 1: ① Childlike Trust and Simplicity

Reflect and Apply

	In what ways do you struggle to trust God's provision like a child trusts a parent?
2.	How does a simple, trusting heart protect you from greed?
	What steps can you take today to simplify your faith and focus on God's promises?







Day 1: ① Childlike Trust and Simplicity

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time you experienced childlike trust in God.
2.	List areas in your life where greed tries to take hold.
3.	Plan one tangible way to simplify your daily routine or possessions.







Day 1: O Childlike Trust and Simplicity

Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to have a childlike heart—full of trust and simplicity. Teach me to rest in Your provision without anxiety or longing for what I don't have. Guard me against the deceit of greed and open my eyes to the true joy found in You. May my life reflect pure faith and contentment. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*



















Your Verse

Luke 12:15 - "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

Supporting Scriptures

- 1 Timothy 6:10 "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil."
- Hebrews 13:5 "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have."







Devotional: Recognizing and Resisting Greed's Pull

Greed is a powerful force that can rob us of freedom and peace. Jesus warns us to *be on guard against all kinds of greed*, reminding us that true life is not found in accumulating wealth or belongings. Children, unaware of the world's hustle for possessions, often find joy in simple things and relationships, highlighting what truly matters.

Our culture often promotes more—more stuff, more status, more comfort—as the path to happiness. But the Scriptures reveal how greed can quickly lead us away from God's best. When love for money overtakes love for God, it spawns destructive behaviors and discontentment. Instead, Hebrews encourages us to remain content with what we have, finding satisfaction in God's provision rather than endless acquisition.

Today, reflect on the areas where greed may subtly creep into your heart. Ask God to reveal these and give you strength to turn away. Embrace the joy of contentment and freedom from material chains, adopting a lifestyle marked by grace and simplicity.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How does greed manifest in your daily thoughts or choices?
2.	What true desires does greed mask in your heart?
	How can contentment become a daily practice rather than a fleeting feeling?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about an instance when greed affected your decisions.
2.	Identify simple joys that bring you satisfaction beyond possessions.
3.	Create a list of ways to turn your focus from possessions to people.







Prayer for Today

















Your Verse

Ecclesiastes 6:9 - "Better what the eye sees than the roving of the appetite. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind."

Supporting Scriptures

- 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
- Philippians 4:11 "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances."







Devotional: Embracing Gratitude for Everyday Blessings

Life often tempts us to chase after desires that never truly satisfy. Solomon warns against this endless pursuit, calling it *chasing after the wind*. Children naturally delight in simple gifts—a favorite toy, a hug, or time with a parent. Their joy is immediate and sincere, unclouded by the pressure to want more.

We can cultivate this kind of joy by becoming attentive to the simple gifts God gives each day. Being grateful transforms our mindset, shifting it away from scarcity or lack toward abundance in the present moment. Paul's example teaches us contentment is a skill learned, not a condition dependent on circumstances.

Today, take time to notice and appreciate the simple pleasures you may overlook. Practice gratitude, and allow God's peace and joy to replace any restlessness caused by desire for more.







Reflect and Apply

1.	What simple blessing has brought you joy recently?
2.	How does gratitude shift your perspective about possessions?
3.	What habits can you form to notice daily gifts from God?







Journaling Prompts

1.	List five simple things you are thankful for today.
2.	Reflect on a time when contentment surprised you.
3.	Write a prayer of thanks focusing on daily gifts, big or small.







Prayer for Today







Day 4: Children









Day 4: 🍑 Learning Generosity from Children

Your Verse

Mark 10:14-15 - "Let the little children come to me... Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Supporting Scriptures

- Acts 20:35 "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
- 2 Corinthians 9:7 "God loves a cheerful giver."







Day 4: 🍑 Learning Generosity from Children

Devotional: Cultivating a Joyful and Generous Heart

Children often give freely and joyfully, whether it's a smile, a hug, or sharing their snack. Jesus honors this childlike receiving and extending of love, illustrating the heart needed to enter God's kingdom. Generosity flows naturally in pure-hearted children who are not weighed down by calculating or hoarding.

As adults, greed can harden our hearts, making generosity feel costly or risky. Yet Scripture invites us to learn from children—to give cheerfully and trust God to meet our needs afterward. Giving isn't just about possessions; it's about a generous spirit, willingness to share, and a heart aligned with God's love.

Today, reflect on how your giving mirrors childlike simplicity and joy. Ask God to soften any hardness and cultivate a generous heart that trusts Him fully.







Day 4: 🎔 Learning Generosity from Children

Reflect and Apply

1.	How does your attitude toward giving compare with that of a child?
2.	What fears or obstacles keep you from generous giving?
3.	How can generosity deepen your trust in God's provision?







Day 4: 🎔 Learning Generosity from Children

Journaling Prompts

1.	Recall a moment when giving brought you unexpected joy.
2.	List ways you can practice generosity beyond money.
3.	Write about how God might be calling you to give more freely.







Day 4: 🌣 Learning Generosity from Children

Prayer for Today

Father, teach me to give with the joyful, trusting heart of a child. Remove any fears or resistance to generosity and fill me with the desire to share freely. May my giving be an expression of faith in Your abundant provision and love. Mold me to be cheerful and willing, reflecting Your generosity. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

\[\text{

















Day 5: Ocntentment in Every Season

Your Verse

Philippians 4:12–13 – "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... I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Supporting Scriptures

- 1 Timothy 6:6 "Godliness with contentment is great gain."
- Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing."







Day 5: Contentment in Every Season

Devotional: Trusting God's Strength for True Contentment

Paul's words resonate deeply—contentment is a learned secret that doesn't depend on abundance or hardship. Children rarely compare their situation to others; their focus is on immediate care and relationship. This kind of contentment can be nurtured in our hearts, regardless of circumstances, by trusting God's strength and provision.

Living simply means accepting and embracing where we are without constant striving for more to fill an inner void. God calls us to find our sufficiency in Him, knowing that all true needs are met in His presence. This peace frees us from greed's relentless grip.

Today, practice contentment by thanking God for His strength in your current season, realizing that with Him, you lack nothing.







Day 5: Ontentment in Every Season

Reflect and Apply

	How does knowing Christ strengthens you change your view of possessions?
2.	What would it look like to live content in your current season?
3.	How can you encourage others to find contentment in God?







Day 5: Ontentment in Every Season

Journaling Prompts

Describe a recent challenge and how God provided strength through it.
Write about areas where you struggle to find contentment.
Make a gratitude list focusing on spiritual rather than material blessings.







Day 5: Contentment in Every Season

Prayer for Today

Lord, teach me the secret of contentment through every season. Help me rely on Your strength instead of worldly things to feel fulfilled. Calm restless desires and anchor my heart in Your peace and provision. May I declare confidently that with You, I lack nothing. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙏 😂 💪 🥬







Day 6: 🎇 Seeing Value Beyond Possessions









Day 6: 💥 Seeing Value Beyond Possessions

Your Verse

Matthew 6:19–21 – "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Supporting Scriptures

- Colossians 3:2 "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."
- Luke 16:11 "If you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?"







Day 6: 🎇 Seeing Value Beyond Possessions

Devotional: Prioritizing Eternal Treasures Over Earthly Goods

Greed often tricks us into valuing possessions above all else. Jesus makes a powerful call to focus on eternal treasures — things that cannot perish, be stolen, or decay. Children tend to value relationships, affection, and experiences more than objects, inviting us to reconsider what we truly treasure.

Storing up heavenly treasures means investing in kindness, service, faith, and love—riches that reflect God's kingdom. When our hearts align with these eternal values, greed loses its control because our affections are anchored in what lasts.

Today, evaluate where your treasures lie. Are you storing earthly goods, or investing in heavenly riches reflected in your heart and actions?







Day 6: 🛠 Seeing Value Beyond Possessions

Reflect and Apply

1.	What are the 'treasures' that currently capture your heart's attention?
2.	How can you invest more in spiritual riches?
3.	What practical changes can you make to focus less on material wealth?







Day 6: 🎇 Seeing Value Beyond Possessions

Journaling Prompts

1.	List three spiritual treasures you want to pursue.
2.	Reflect on the impact of storing treasures in heaven on your daily habits.
3.	Write a prayer asking God to align your heart with eternal values.







Day 6: 💥 Seeing Value Beyond Possessions

Prayer for Today

Father, help me to store treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Shift my heart from earthly distractions toward Your eternal kingdom. May my life reflect values that honor You above possessions. Teach me to be faithful with worldly wealth as a reflection of my trust in You. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙏 👄

















Your Verse

Matthew 19:14 - "Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Supporting Scriptures

- Isaiah 40:11 "He tends his flock like a shepherd... he gently leads those that have young."
- Romans 12:2 "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."







Devotional: Committing to a Childlike Heart for Life

Jesus' invitation to embrace the childlike heart is not just a momentary call but a lifelong posture. It means living with trust, simplicity, joy, and generosity every day. It means rejecting greed and embracing contentment as a spiritual pathway into God's kingdom.

Children remind us that life's essence isn't in what we accumulate but in how we love, trust, and depend on our Heavenly Father. By renewing our minds daily and yielding control, we reflect God's gentle leading and care.

As you close this study, commit to nurturing that childlike heart always—valuing God's presence over possessions, sharing generously, finding joy in simplicity, and trusting Him fully.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How can you practically embrace a childlike heart every day?
2.	What steps will you take to guard against greed going forward?
3.	In what ways can you share the lessons of simplicity with others?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write a commitment statement to live with a childlike heart.
2.	Reflect on what you've learned about greed and simplicity this week.
3.	Plan one way to encourage simplicity and trust in your community.







Prayer for Today

Jesus, help me embrace the heart of a child daily. May I live in trust, joy, and simplicity, rejecting greed and clinging to Your love. Gently lead me and renew my mind so I reflect Your kingdom. May my life be a testimony of contentment and generosity. *In Your name, Amen.* \bigwedge







Where God's Word Meets Your Daily Life

A Personal Invitation from HolyJot

We pray this Bible Study has blessed you and drawn you closer to the heart of God. If you enjoyed this study, we'd love for you to join our growing HolyJot community online.



- 100k+ Bible Study Plans on every topic of life
- Access studies anytime on your phone, tablet, or computer
- Studies for individuals, families, small groups, and churches
- Secure online journaling or keep using print for privacy
- A place to grow your faith alongside believers worldwide

Bonus for You:

Download exclusive study bundles and resources when you create a <u>free HolyJot account</u>. No spam. No gimmicks. Just God's Word.

Visit Now:

- * www.HolyJot.com
- Scan this QR code to start your next Bible Study today:

We'd love to hear your story. Email us at info@holyjot.com.



Connect with us at:

<u>Facebook</u> • <u>Instagram</u> • <u>YouTube</u> • <u>TikTok</u>

You are welcome to share this PDF with others. ase keep it intact so the full study and credits remain.

© 2025 HolyJot LLC. All Rights Reserved.