

TRUE[ish] -- 2
AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAPPY

May all who are godly be happy... Ps 97:12

- **IF GOD WANTS ME HAPPY AND I'M NOT THEN GOD FAILED.**
- ***Relativism***—assumption that there is no such thing as absolute truth.
- ***Subjectivism***—I, the subject, have the right to determine what is right and wrong without submitting my judgment to any authority outside myself.

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS SEEMS RIGHT

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.
Prov 14:12

- Without a belief in absolute truth, truth is defined by whatever makes me happy.
- When the bottom line is my happiness, happiness becomes the standard by which I judge my actions.
- Whatever makes me happy must be right.
- Since God wants me happy, anything that doesn't make me happy must be bad.
- Discomfort, delay, risk, suffering, inconveniences, and obstacles can't be God's will.
- Without knowing it, I begin to worship the false gods of comfort, money, pleasure, and things.

GOD DOESN'T WANT YOU HAPPY

- 1) **WHEN IT CAUSES YOU TO DO SOMETHING WRONG OR UNWISE.**

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do...
1 Peter 1:15

- Since I'm not happy, I'm allowed to do something that otherwise would be wrong.
- 2) **WHEN IT IS ONLY BASED ON THINGS IN THIS WORLD.**

Better possessions + peaceful circumstances + thrilling experiences + the right relationships + the perfect appearance = happiness.

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever. 1 John 2:15-17

3) GOD WANTS YOU BLESSED.

blessed: *makarios* (mak-ar'-ee-os); supremely blessed, more than happy.

Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands. Ps 112:1

May all who are godly be happy in the LORD and praise his holy name! Ps 97:12 NLT

Discussion Questions

- 1) Describe a time you've put your immediate happiness above doing what you knew was right.**
- 2) Reread 1 John 2:15-17. How have you wrongly pursued happiness through the things of this world?**
- 3) God wants you blessed (which can be translated as more than happy). Talk about a time when you've been overwhelmed by the blessings of God. (Don't limit His blessings to material blessings only.)**