

Wednesday Word- “Complacent”

Origin: Mid 17th century (in the sense 'pleasant'): from Latin complacent- 'pleasing', from the verb complacere.

Latin definitions of 'complacere':

- *please
- *take fancy of
- *capture affections of
- *be acceptable/agreed to

Definition:

- *Showing smug or uncritical satisfaction with oneself or one's achievements

Usage:

Complacent and complaisant are two words that are similar in pronunciation and that both come from the Latin verb complacere 'to please,' but in English do not mean the same thing.

Complacent is the more common word and means 'smug and self-satisfied': after four consecutive championships, the team became complacent. Complaisant, on the other hand, means 'willing to please'

Example: the local people proved complaisant and cordial.

I will not some long explanation regarding this word. I will say that I feel Holy Spirit is saying His people (us) are being too complacent in our own ways instead of being obedient and faithful to His ways. I will venture to guess that right now, as you are reading this, you automatically think this is regarding the ways of the world. Many things are running through your mind regarding current events and how certain things have become the norm. Let's flip our minds.

We have become complacent to the things of God. We have become "smug" with our own achievements in the Body of Christ. This is not speaking of individual walks but the corporate walk of Christ's Body. We often take what someone who has been placed in authority in the Christian world as the absolute truth instead of fact checking it with the Author Himself.

The Lord is in the business of tearing things down to build them back up by His order and purpose; not man's. We are to submit to those placed in authority (worldly and spiritually) but we are also called to test every spirit lest we become deceived.

Here are some other words that can be used in place of 'complacent' to give us a better idea of what it really means. As you read them, ask Holy Spirit where you have allowed complacency to enter into your life. Then ask Him to help you change it and only focus on Him and His Truth.

Synonyms:

Example phrase: in this competitive field we can't afford to be complacent

*smug *self-satisfied *self-congratulatory *self-regarding *conceited *gloating

*triumphant *proud *pleased *satisfied *content

There is a lot of 'self' in complacency.

Bible Verses:

- **2 Samuel 6:6-7** - And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. 7 Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God.
- **Numbers 4:15** - And when Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is set to go, then the sons of Kohath shall come to carry them; but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die...
- **Exodus 4:24-26** - And it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the Lord met him and sought to kill him. 25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast it at Moses' feet, and said, "Surely you are a husband of blood to me!" 26 So He let him go. Then she said, "You are a husband of blood!"—because of the circumcision.
- **Genesis 17:9-14** - And God said to Abraham: "As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. 10 This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised; 11 and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you. 12 He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised, every male child in your generations, he who is born in your house or bought with money from any foreigner who is not your descendant. 13 He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised, and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. 14 And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant."
- **Matthew 6:1-7** - "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand

know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly. “And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. 7 And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

- **Matthew 6:33-34** - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.
- **1 John 4:1-6** - Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. 4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.
- **Hebrews 11:1,6** - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen... 6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Other Sources:

http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/complacent

<http://www.latin-dictionary.net/search/latin/Complacere>

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