**IMPROVE YOUR STANDARD OF LIVING**

Living in Tough Times – Pt 5

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**1 Peter 3:8-9 (NIV)**
Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

**Psalm 34:12-14 (NLT2)**
Does anyone want to live a life that is long and prosperous? Then keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies! Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it.

**Three things that are fundamental to finding happiness in your day to day existence:**

**1. Think About What You Say**

**1 Peter 3:10 (NLT2)**
For the Scriptures say, “If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies.

**1 Peter 2:22-23 (NIV)**
"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

**Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)**
The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

**Proverbs 13:3 (NIV)**
He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin.

**Proverbs 12:18 (NASB)**
There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

**Proverbs 10:19 (NIV)**
When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

**2. Think About What You Do**

**1 Peter 3:10-11 (NIV)**
For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it.

**Isaiah 1:16 (NIV)**
wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong,

**Isaiah 1:17 (NIV)**
learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

**Proverbs 12:14 (NASB)**
A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his words, And the deeds of a man's hands will return to him.

**3.** **Think About How You Treat Others**

**1 Peter 3:10-11 (NIV)**
For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it.

**Romans 14:19 (NASB)**
So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

**Romans 12:18 (NASB)**
If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

**1 Peter 3:12 (NLT2)**
The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil.”