



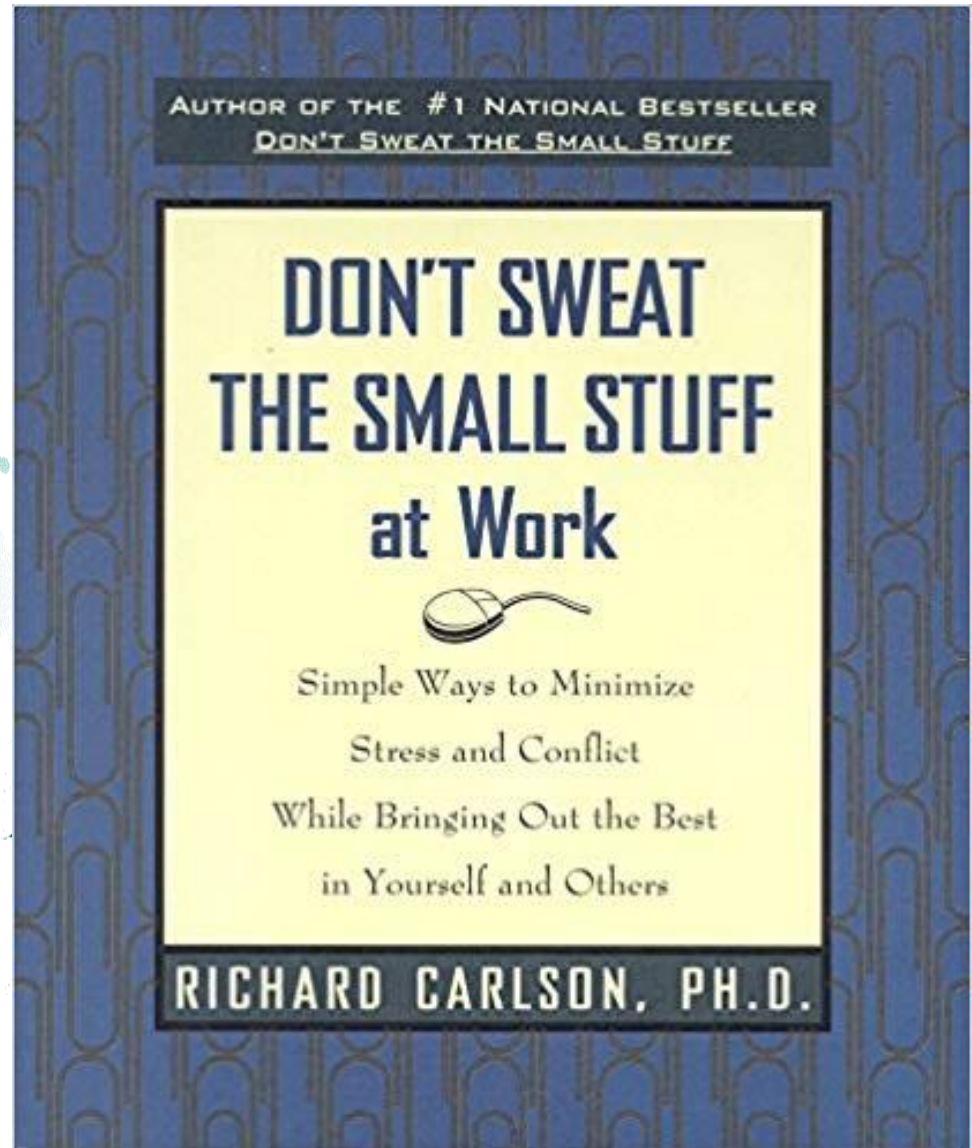
# **Gnats, Flies & Other Irritations**



# Gnats, Flies & Other Irritations

- **Don't Let the Gnats & Flies Bother You**

**Don't Let  
the  
Gnats, Flies  
Bother You**



## Matthew 6:25-34



“(25) Therefore I say to you, **do not worry** about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? (26) Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”

## Matthew 6:25-34



“(27) Which of you **by worrying** can add one cubit to his stature? (28) So **why** do you **worry** about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; (29) and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

## Matthew 6:25-34



“(30) Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? (31) Therefore **do not worry**, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ (32) For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.



## Matthew 6:25-34

“(33) 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.”



**Genesis  
22:8**

“The Lord will provide...”



**Luke  
8:14**

“Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked **with cares,** riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.”



## Hebrews 12:12



“(1) Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside** every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and **let us run with endurance** the race that is set before us, (2) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”<sup>12</sup>”

“The thing that came the closest to defeating me was the sand in my shoes.”





# Gnats, Flies & Other Irritations

- **Don't Let the Gnats, Flies Bother You**
- **Be Content Regardless of the Gnats and Flies**

## Philippians 4:11-12

“(11) Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have **learned** in whatever state I am, **to be content**: (12) I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.”

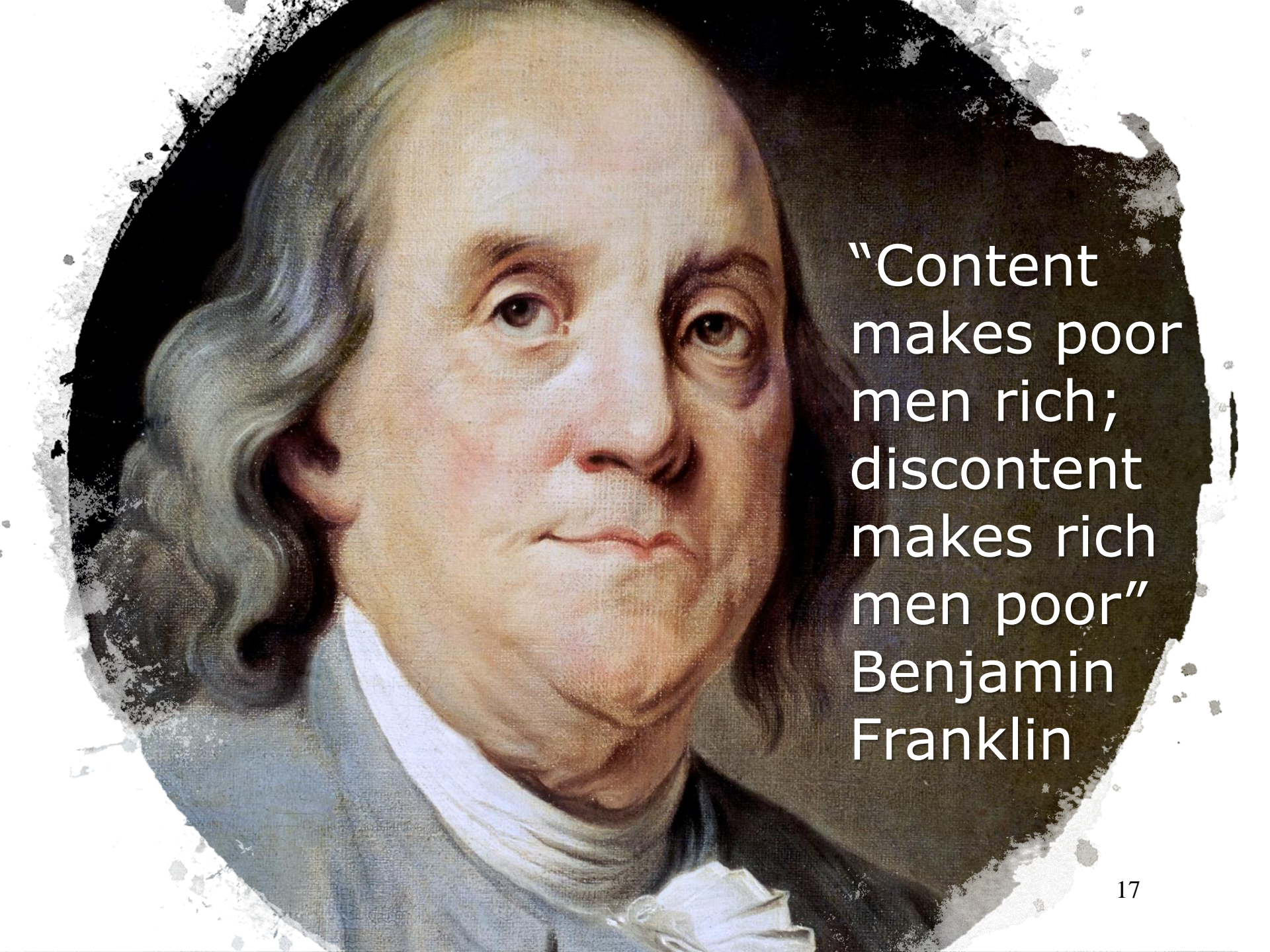


## 1 Timothy 6:6-8



“(6) Now godliness with **contentment** is **great gain**. (7) For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. (8) And having food and clothing, with these we shall **be content**.”



A circular portrait of Benjamin Franklin, showing him from the chest up. He has long, wavy, grey hair and is wearing a white cravat and a dark coat. The portrait is set against a dark, textured background. On the right side of the portrait, there is a quote in white text.

“Content  
makes poor  
men rich;  
discontent  
makes rich  
men poor”  
Benjamin  
Franklin

**1 Peter  
5:7**

“...casting all **your care**  
upon Him, for He cares  
for you.”



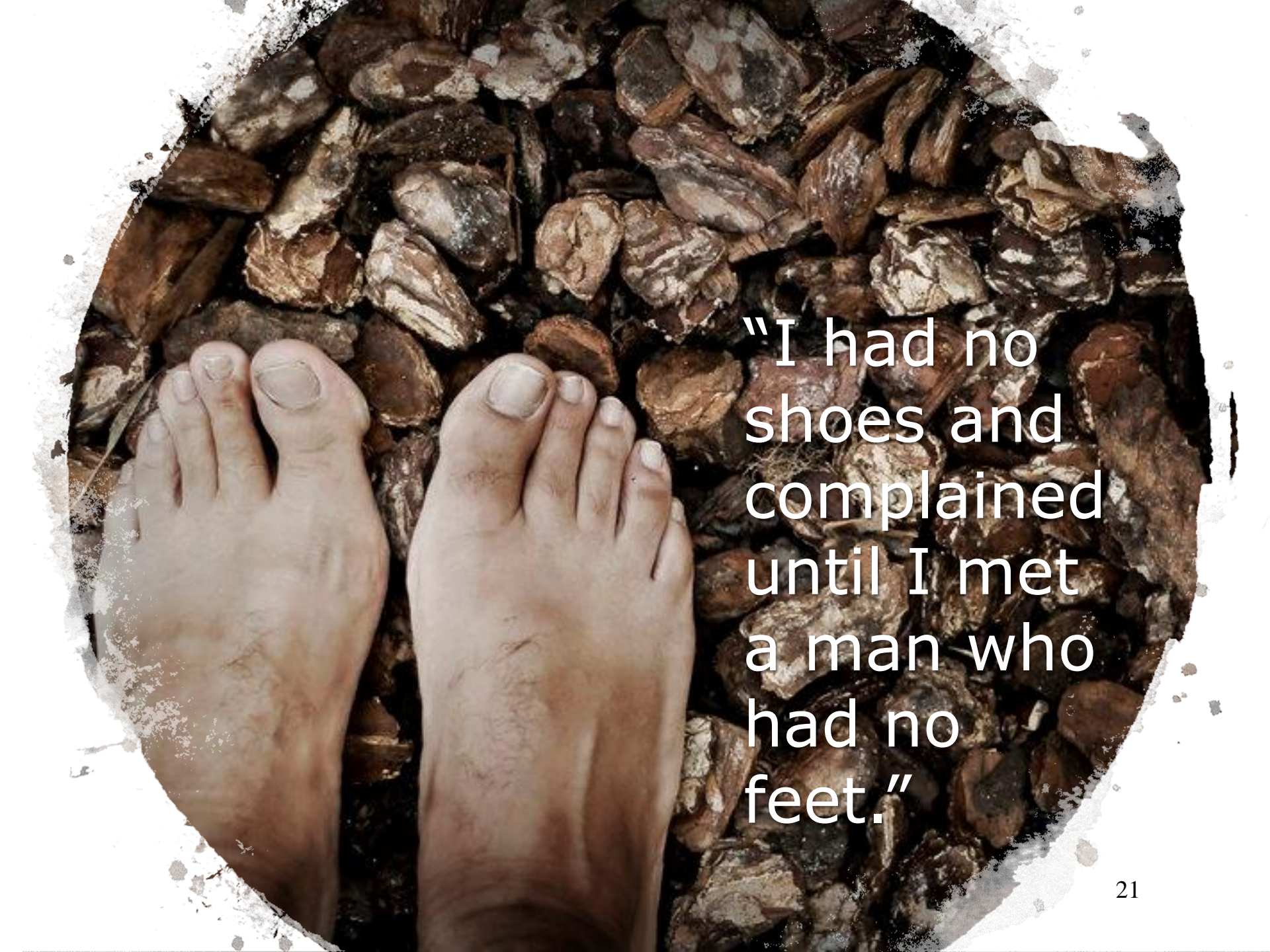


# **Gnats, Flies & Other Irritations**

- **Don't Let the Gnats, flies Bother You**
- **Be Content Regardless of the Gnat, Flies**
- **Being Irritable Won't Make the Gnats, Flies Go Away**



One  
measure  
of a man  
is the size  
of what it  
takes to  
annoy him

A photograph showing a pair of human feet standing on a large pile of dark, glowing coals. The feet are positioned on the left side of the frame, with the toes pointing towards the top. The coals are piled high and appear to be very hot, with some white ash or steam visible at the edges. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

“I had no shoes and complained until I met a man who had no feet.”

**Proverbs  
25:28**

“Whoever has **no rule** over his own spirit is like **a city broken down, without walls.**”



**Matthew  
13:22**

“the **cares** of this world and the deceitfulness of riches (that) choke the Word, and (one) becomes unfruitful.”



A man in a dark suit and tie is shown from the chest up, covering his eyes with his right hand. His expression is one of distress or shame. In the foreground, a large, open hand is held palm facing forward, as if to stop or prevent something. The background is a dark, textured blue-grey color, framed by a white, torn-paper-like border.

unloving  
thoughts,  
acts of  
impatience,  
unkindness,  
envy, pride,  
rudeness,  
selfishness,  
irritability,  
evil surmising



**1**  
**Corinthians**  
**13:4-5**



“(4) **Love** suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; (5) does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, **is not provoked**, thinks no evil...”



# Gnats, Flies & Other Irritations

- **Don't Let the Gnats, flies bother You**
- **Be Content Regardless of the Gnat, Flies**
- **Being Irritable Won't Make the Gnats, Flies Go Away**
- **Being Pleasant Won't Make the Gnats, Flies Go Away, But It Will Make You Better**

## Philippians 4:8-9



“(8) Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are of **good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is anything **praiseworthy**—meditate on these things. (9) The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”



# Conclusion

**Gnats, flies and  
other Irritations**

## Ecclesiastes 10:1

“Dead flies putrefy the perfumer’s ointment, And cause it to give off a foul odor; So does **a little folly** to one respected for wisdom and honor.”



**Song of  
Solomon  
2:15**

“Catch us the foxes, the **little foxes** that spoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes.”





Tend your  
own vineyard,  
be watchful  
and diligent  
to catch the  
**little foxes**

**Romans  
12:21**

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”





**James  
3:13-17**

“(13) Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. (14) But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.



**James  
3:13-17**

“(15) This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. (16) For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. (17) But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”

**1**  
**Corinthians**  
**5:6**

“Do you not know that  
a little leaven leavens  
the whole lump?”

