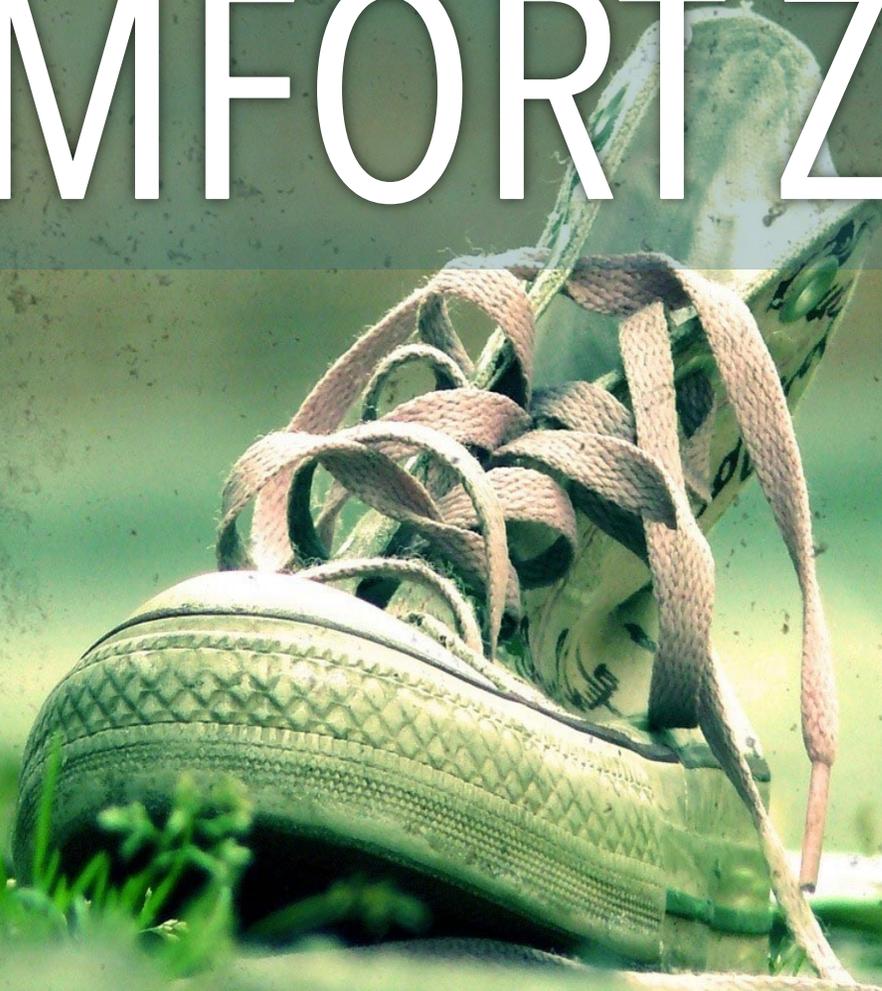
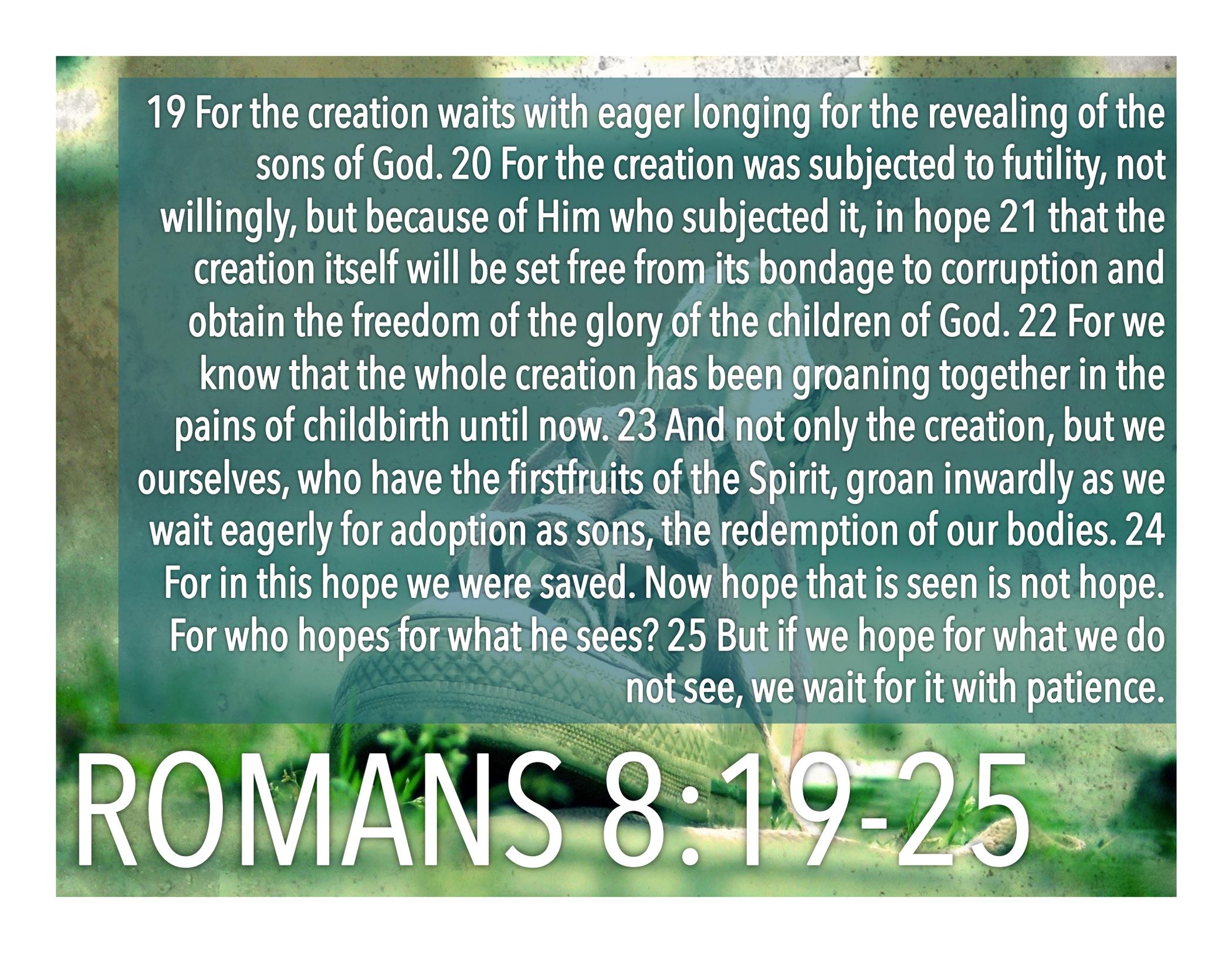


# COMFORT ZONE



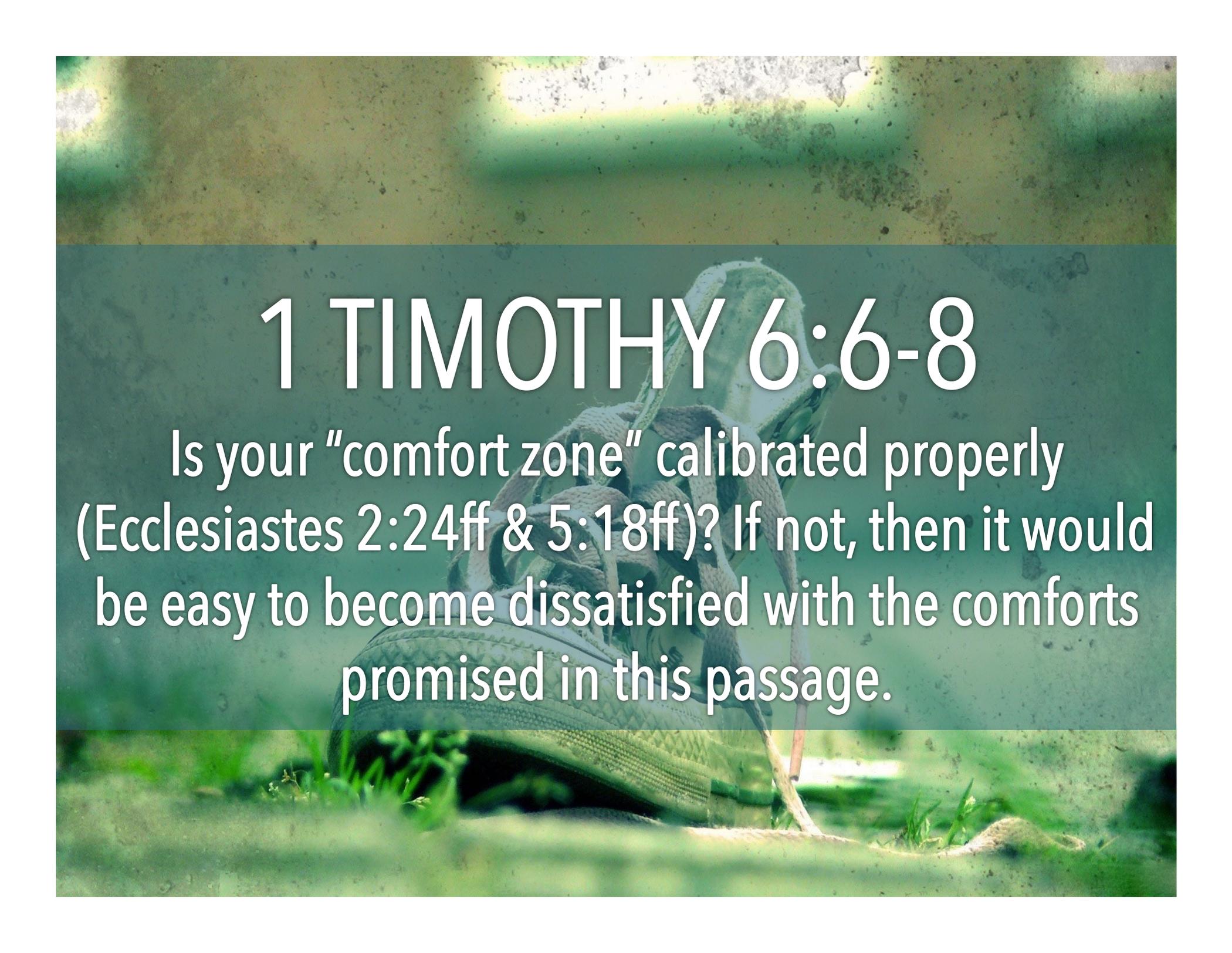


19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

# ROMANS 8:19-25

# TOO COMFORTABLE?

- Nobody would suggest that it's necessarily a "bad" thing to be comfortable – after all, our very nature teaches us that most of human activity is spent in the pursuit of equilibrium.
- But do our physical goals – food, shelter, companionship, etc. – distract us from the greater pursuit of life with God? And how do we find practical ways of prioritizing these various spiritual and physical goals? This is what we hope to answer in this lesson!



# 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-8

Is your "comfort zone" calibrated properly (Ecclesiastes 2:24ff & 5:18ff)? If not, then it would be easy to become dissatisfied with the comforts promised in this passage.

*Sorry.*

We may have moved your seat  
when we cleaned your car.



Mercedes-Benz

**FIRST WORLD PROBLEMS**

# LEAVING YOUR COMFORT ZONE

- A comfort zone provides the illusion of consistency, security, and control (same job, car, home, family situation). We love our routines, like an old pair of shoes or a worn-out garment.
- If we are paralyzed by the "need" for physical comfort we might never realize we have a greater (and actual) need that transcends earthly measurement.
- Notice 2 Corinthians 5:1ff. We sense a need that is unfulfilled, that can only be explained by God.



THE PRESCRIPTION?

# LEARN TO LET IT GO

- Matthew 19:16ff – Give the man some credit for both a moral life and a willingness to dig deeper. He was not satisfied with the “easy answer” and could tell that something more must have been expected of him.
- 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19 – Like the rich ruler, Paul’s readers also needed to learn how to let go of the things that strapped them to their earthly life. Wealth is not a bad thing (Ecc. 5:18-20), but it is one of many things that distract us from a heaven-focused life.

A photograph of a brown leather shoe with a snake coiled around it, set against a textured, light-colored background. The shoe is positioned in the lower half of the frame, and the snake is wrapped around its laces and upper part. The background is a mottled, light brown and tan color with some darker spots, suggesting a rough or aged surface. The overall lighting is soft and even.

# 2 PETER 3:8-13

“What sort of people ought you to be...”