**The Imitation of Christ by Thomas A. Kempis**

**BOOK ONE:** THOUGHTS HELPFUL IN THE LIFE OF THE SOUL

**Chapter 11:** Acquiring Peace and Zeal for Perfection

**Definition and Scriptures:**

**Good Life:**  Having a good life as a Christian can sometimes look a little different than it would if you were a non-believer. Instead of prizing your worldly possessions and accomplishments, for instance, you'll find greater satisfaction by maintaining your relationship with the Lord and following His commands. (wikihow.com)

**Hebrews 11:6:** And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.  
   
**Galatians 1:10:**  For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.  
   
**1 Thessalonians 2:4:** But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.  
   
**Proverbs 16:7:** When a man’s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

**Quote:**

“If you but consider what peace a good life will bring to yourself and what joy it will give to others, I think you will be more concerned about your spiritual progress.”

**Discussion:**

How can being in relationship with God and following his commands bring us greater peace and joy than prizing our worldly possessions and accomplishments?

How can bringing joy to others aid us in our spiritual progress/growth?