

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ❖ What would you say to a young person to help them connect the dots between being free and being responsible? How did you learn that lesson?
- ❖ What's something in your past experience you remember obsessing on as a "must have?" How did it work out?
- ❖ Looking at Exodus 20:17 again, what Old Testament examples can you list of people who didn't keep this commandment and paid for it? New Testament examples?
- ❖ How can we live out this command about coveting in a market-driven culture that constantly lures our desires for more? What specific steps this holiday season can be taken to keep this in check?
- ❖ Read Philippians 4:11-13 and its' Old Testament equivalent, Psalm 16:5-6 again. What prevents contentment? How did you "learn to be content" in your life? What keys to contentment do you use regularly?
- ❖ How has this series on the 10 Commandments made a difference for you? What will be your biggest take-away?



Take time with your children to talk about the issue of contentment and at least one of the issues involved covered in this message – Giving thanks, enjoying what you have, being happy for others. If you didn't already do so over the Thanksgiving holiday ask them to tell what they're thankful for. This could be done over the next few days at each meal. Some have a tradition at Thanksgiving of putting 5 kernels of corn at each plate and asking people to think of things they're grateful for that coincide with this number. According to one source this was what some of the first Pilgrims had as a daily ration through the first bitter winter of their American experience.

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

November 26 & 27, 2011

“Watching Your Wanters”

Exodus 20:17 (NIV) "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

A parting glance back

➡ **Accept** _____ **of** _____
and _____.

➡ **Find** _____ **in the** _____
_____.

Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV) "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Romans 13:10 (NIV) Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

The final word

Luke 12:15 (TLB) "Beware! Don't always be wishing for what you don't have. For real life and real living are not related to how rich we are."

1. **R** _____ **your** _____.

Psalms 23:1 (TLB) "Because the Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need!"

Bible Versions: NIV-New International; MSG-The Message paraphrase; TLB- Living Bible; TEV-Today's English
NCV-New Century; NLT-New Living Translation; NRSV-New Revised Standard Version

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James 4:1-3 (NIV) *What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

1 John 2:17 (MSG) *The world and all its wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out - but whoever does what God wants is set for eternity.*

2. R _____ all _____.

2 Corinthians 10:12 (NRSV) *When they measure themselves by one another, and compare themselves with one another, they do not show good sense.*

Galatians 6:4-5 (NLT) *Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct.*

3. R _____ on _____.

Ecclesiastes 6:9 (NCV) *"It is better to see what you have than to want more. Wanting more is useless -- like chasing the wind."*

Psalms 16:5-6 (NIV) *"LORD, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance."*

1 Timothy 6:17 (NIV) *Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment...*

4. R _____ your _____.

1 Timothy 6:18-19 (NIV) *...Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share...they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

Proverbs 21:26 (TEV) *...All they do is think about what they would like to have. The righteous, however, can give, and give generously.*

5. R _____ your _____.

Philippians 4:11-13 (NCV) *"I have learned to be satisfied with the things I have and with everything that happens. I know how to live when I am poor, and I know how to live when I have plenty. I have learned the secret of being happy at any time in everything that happens...I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength."*

For further thought

Psalms 119 is devoted to the theme of obedience to God and its blessings in everyday living. If you haven't already done so, spend time reading from it each day this week. Here's a plan for reading through this lengthy Psalm over the course of a week:

Monday - Psalm 119:1-24; Tuesday - 119:25-48; Wednesday - 119:49-72; Thursday - 119:73-96; Friday - 119:97-128; Saturday - 119:129-152; Sunday - 119:153-176

For each day you read, pick a "sound byte" verse from the passage that seems to sum up the section, much like a news reporter would choose a sentence or two from a politician's speech to show on the evening news. Take a moment to re-phrase the verse in your own words. At the end of the week, choose one or more of the sound byte verses to memorize.