

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE TENTH COMMANDMENT
The Ten Commandments — Week 15

ICEBREAKER: Do you believe in reincarnation? Why or why not?

OVERVIEW: This week we are looking at the sin of covetousness. Of all the sins condemned in the Ten Commandments, this one just might be the deadliest. Covetousness is very difficult to detect in yourself, and very easy to rationalize. It can ruin your relationship with God and others, and cause you to waste your life on lesser things. It can even keep you from heaven. In this study we will look to better understand covetousness so that we can identify it in our lives and avoid its deadly sting.

1. **Read Exodus 20:17.** What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. In the sermon it was stated that conquering covetousness can help you conquer all the sin in your life, eliminate most of the causes of your unhappiness, and defeat the causes of most of your relational conflict. Is covetousness really that powerful? Explain.
3. Define the sin of covetousness. How is covetousness different from envy, jealousy, lust, and greed?
4. To covet is to desire the wrong things. Give an example of desiring the wrong things. Have you ever done this before? Explain.
5. To covet is to desire the right things for the wrong reason. Give an example of this. Have you ever coveted in this way? Explain.

6. To covet is to desire the right things too strongly. Give an example. Has this ever happened to you? Explain.
7. One example of coveting is the desire to be rich. While it is not wrong to be rich, it is wrong to desire to be rich (1 Timothy 6:9-10). How much money is it okay to desire?
8. What are some of the ways that the tenth commandment is unique – different from the rest of the commandments?
9. What does the tenth commandment teach us about our hearts (our thoughts, attitude, and desires)?
10. How does the tenth commandment show us, perhaps more than all the other commandments, our need for a Savior?
11. Think about your goals, your deepest desires and longings, the things that you are chasing and running after. Are you desiring the wrong things? Are you desiring the right things for the wrong reasons? Are you desiring the right things, but too strongly? Explain.

The Last Word: Desire is not a bad thing. The point is that your desire should be for God and for the things of God.