

# **Bible Study Discussion**

**2014-2015**

**Exodus 20:17**



## **Lesson 10: Need or Greed?**

## Memory Verses



You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Exodus 20:17

# Coveting



## The Ten

# Definition

**Coveting is a desire for something with the goal of possession at any cost.**



**With the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment, God moves from:**

- **Actions to Attitudes**
- **Motions to Motives**
- **Forbidden deeds to forbidden desires.**



# **God Gives Us**

**Ability to Gather**

**Ability to Succeed**

**Ability to Produce**

**Love (John 3:16)**

**Truth (Psalm 19:7-10)**

**Spiritual Gifts (I Corinthians 12)**

**Nature (Genesis 1:26-31)**

**When our God-given desires go amuck,  
that is covetousness.**

# God Denies Us



**Desires that are Excessive**

**Desires that are Illegitimate**

**Desires that are Exploitative**

**Desires that are Exclusive**

# Why Is Coveting Banned?

**It leads to dishonesty  
and injustice.**



David saw and desired Bathsheba. (*Do not covet.*)

David took Bathsheba. (*Do not steal.*)

David got her pregnant. (*Do not commit adultery.*)

David arranged for Uriah's death. (*Do not murder.*)

# Why Is Coveting Banned?

**It leads to hurt, pain, and destruction.**

David's son died, leaving him distraught.

∞

Our society gives us false standards for what love should be... fun, exciting, heated, and passionate. When people/spouses don't measure up to the false standard, then they go looking for other alternatives to solve their problem.

# Why Is Coveting Banned?

**It leads to insatiable demands.**

In our recent expanding economy, we want people to have jobs.

- ➡ We need to increase production of goods.
- ➡ We need to sell more product.
- ➡ We need people to buy more.
- ➡ We need to manipulate the consumer.

# Why Is Coveting Banned?

**It leads to worshipping the idol of self-interest and personal gain.**

Coveting is a self-centered act.



# How Can We Respond to Coveting?

## **1. We need to be obedient to God.**

- No means no.
- What motivates us to covet?
- We need to seek contentment and peace.

## **2. We need to spend more time with the Word of God and in prayer.**

- We need to recognize what is right and wrong.
- When we sin, we need to confess and change.

# How Can We Respond to Coveting?

## 3. We need to readjust our lifestyles.

- We need to live the way God would have us.
- We need to be aware of status-symbol buying.



- We need to give to church and charities.

# How Can We Respond to Coveting?

## 3. We need to readjust our lifestyles. (cont'd)

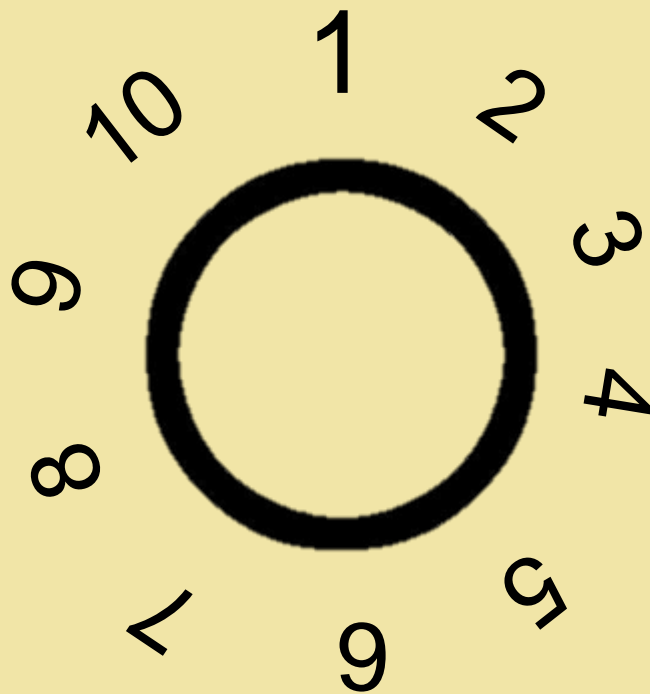
- We need to recognize the problems that can be caused by instant gratification.



- Be need to be aware of advertising and what it can do to you if you let it.
- We need to recognize when we are slipping back into covetous behavior.

You shall not covet...anything that belongs to your neighbor.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



We are not to create gods out of possessions.

# Summary of the 10 Commandments



**Are they relevant today?**

# The 10 Commandments

They show us what kind of people  
God wants us to be.

Faithful

Selfless

Reverent

Honorable

Loving

Respectful

They show us what way of life is fully  
satisfying to the human nature.

# The 10 Commandments

They show us who we are in God's eyes.

Sinful

Selfish

Helpless

Needing forgiveness

Lawbreakers

Needing Hope

Needing a Savior; Needing Jesus

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H  
VLqkExH5ww](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVLqkExH5ww)

**The Dash**

By

Linda Ellis

# The 10 Commandments

They are the cement for community.  
What is God's ideal community like?

- Community marked by common worship (#1, #2, #3)
- Community with accepted rhythms of work & rest (#4)
- Community with respect for marriage, family, & life  
(#5, #6)
- Community with respect for property and owners'  
rights (#8, #10)
- Community with respect for truth in all relationships  
(#9)



**The Ten Commandments  
are the Foundation  
that points us to the  
Fulfillment:**

**JESUS**

What motivates you  
toward coveting and what  
are you going to do to  
resist it?



**Applying the Lesson to Your Life**

*We give thanks to God for knowing  
what we need and providing  
us with a strong foundation.*



*To God Alone Be the Glory!*



# Closing Prayer