

NOTES & QUESTIONS

PRACTICE CONTENTMENT

JIM NICODEM | JUNE 22 & 23, 2024

EXODUS 20:17; 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10; 17-19

Introduction

1. Distinguish Between _____ and _____

2. Beware of the Dangers of _____, _____, _____

•Consumer _____

•Relational _____

•Spiritual _____

3. _____ What You Have

4. Make Long-Term _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. If you like shopping--what do you like about it? If you don't like shopping--what don't you like about it?
2. Read Exodus 20:17. How is C#10 different from the first nine commandments? Why is that significant? (Hint: see Proverbs 4:23.) What does coveting mean? What sorts of things are you tempted to covet?
3. Read I Timothy 6:6. What is the Bible's antidote to coveting? What does this word mean? 4. Read Philippians 4:11, 12. What does the word "learned" tell you about contentment?
4. Read I Timothy 6:6-8. Why do you think v.8 is not true of most people? Read Philippians 4:19. Why might you have trouble distinguishing between your needs and your wants? Practically speaking, how might you keep your wants under control?
5. Read I Timothy 6:9, 10. List all the words in these verses that refer to the dangers associated with the pursuit of more, more, more. Is money itself bad? Explain. What makes it bad?
6. Give examples from your personal experience of the three dangers mentioned in this sermon that are associated with the pursuit of more, more, more (i.e. consumer debt; relational discord; spiritual demise). What other dangers related to coveting can you think of?
7. What is significant about a comparison of I Timothy 6:10 and Revelation 2:4? Why does coveting diminish our love for Jesus (multiple answers)?
8. Read I Timothy 6:17. How does the truth expressed in the last line of this verse safeguard us against coveting? In what areas are you tempted to compare what you have with what others have? How might you avoid playing the comparison game?
9. Someone says to you: "I'd like to become a more thankful person." What advice would you give them? (Be practical and specific.)
10. Read I Timothy 6:18, 19. Why is the Great Salt Lake dead--and how is this an analogy to coveting? In what two ways does Paul direct us to invest in others? How are you doing in each of these ways (family beneficiaries excluded)? Explain. What could you do to increase your investments? Why are serving and giving antidotes to coveting?
11. What are your two best takeaways from this study?