

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. When was the last time you thought, "*If only I had _____, I'd be happy*"? How did you complete that sentence? Why did you think that particular thing would take you to a new level of contentment? Share your experience with the group.

Going Deeper

3. Read Exodus 20:17. What does it mean to "*covet*"? Why is coveting so destructive? In what ways is the 10th Commandment distinct from the other 9? How does the 10th Commandment illuminate our understanding of the other 9 commandments?
4. Read Luke 12:13-21. What request does Jesus receive (vv. 13-14)? How does he respond (vv. 15-21)? How does Jesus clarify the true nature of coveting? Why is it critical for us to understand that coveting relates not only to the *object* of our desires, but the *order* of our desires?
5. In Colossians 3:5, Paul says that "*covetousness...is idolatry.*" Describe the relationship between covetousness and idolatry. How do the 1st and 10th Commandments interpret one another?

Application:

6. Read Matthew 6:25-34 (not also the parallels in Luke 12:22-40). According to Jesus, what's the solution to coveting (see Matthew 6:33)? Jeff said, "*if we want to be content, our desires can't simply be negated. They must be redeemed.*" Why is this critical for us to understand?
7. Jeff offered a list of questions to help us diagnose covetousness in our own lives. Which of these stood of you? Why?
8. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this commandment?