

EXPLORING THE COMMANDMENTS: PART FOUR

Bible Text: Matthew 6:19-21

Lesson Focus: We honor God when we are content with what we have and help others keep what they have.

Big Question: Other people have so much more; how am I supposed to be grateful for what I have?

Key Words: CONTENTMENT, COOPERATION, ALTRUISM, BENEVOLENCE

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] God doesn't want us to try to get stuff that isn't ours.
-] The Ninth Commandment is about coveting "stuff."
-] The Tenth Commandment is about coveting "living things."
-] Coveting other people's possessions tells God that God hasn't provided enough for us.
-] No matter how old we get, we still act like small children (or the seagulls on Disney's *Finding Nemo*)—MINE! MINE!
-] Everything we have is a gift from God—and is WAY more than we deserve.
-] Since God has given us so many gifts, the natural response is to share what we have with others, not try to get what isn't ours in the first place.
-] Luther's last written words were "We are beggars." Indeed.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] Do you think that avoiding (or just not looking at) things we might covet is a good way to follow these commandments?
-] How is gossiping about someone to get them out of your group of friends related to coveting?
-] How is intentionally forgetting to return something you borrowed related to coveting?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 277: How to Tell If Your Will Is in Bondage to Sin and What to Do about It

-] Does it ever seem like the expectations in the Bible are just too much?

Here We Stand Student Book page 209: How to Resist Temptation

-] What's the hardest part of temptation?
-] What is the hardest temptation to avoid?

LIFE CONNECTION

As sinners, we want as much stuff as possible. Sometime this week on a piece of paper, make a "wish list" of things you'd like to have. Think beyond physical possessions. Turn the paper over and make a list of all the things you have that you're thankful for. This might be a little more difficult. See if you can put as many things on your "thankful list" as you have on your "wish list."

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HWS Bible Trivia

Circle the letter that best answers each question.

WHAT WE SHOULDN'T COVET

1. A neighbor lives _____.
a. next door c. anywhere
b. across the street d. near the church
2. You should not covet the place your neighbor lives, called their _____.
a. farm c. village
b. cottage d. house
3. It's also bad to covet your neighbor's significant other, or _____.
a. child c. pet
b. spouse d. money
4. Luther considers cows, ox, donkeys, and pets in this category.
a. Livestock c. Barn
b. Zoo d. Food

9TH OR 10TH?

1. Don't covet your neighbor's house.
a. 9th commandment
b. 10th commandment
c. Not a commandment
2. Don't covet your neighbor's spouse.
a. 9th commandment
b. 10th commandment
c. Not a commandment
3. Don't covet your neighbor's green lawn.
a. 9th commandment
b. 10th commandment
c. Not a commandment
4. Don't covet anything belonging to your neighbor.
a. 9th commandment
b. 10th commandment
c. Not a commandment

MATTHEW 20:1-16

1. Jesus tells a parable about laborers in a _____.
a. marketplace c. home
b. vineyard d. factory
2. How many times did the landowner hire workers?
a. 1 c. 3
b. 2 d. 4
3. How much did the workers get paid?
a. The same hourly wage.
b. The same daily wage.
c. A wage based on their age.
d. Nothing.
4. Why were some of the workers upset?
a. The landowner cheated them.
b. Some who worked only 2 hours got a full day's pay.
c. They were given a harder task in the field.
d. The landowner wasn't working with them.

COVET POTPOURRI

1. What does it mean to "covet"?
a. To steal.
b. To really want something that's not yours.
c. To trade possessions with someone.
d. To throw away.
2. Matthew 6:21 says your heart is _____.
a. behind your rib cage
b. in the hand of your sweetheart
c. where your treasure is
d. in heaven
3. The 9th commandment deals with _____.
a. coveting nonliving things c. murder
b. coveting living things d. lying
4. The 10th commandments deals with _____.
a. adultery
b. coveting nonliving things
c. coveting living things
d. honoring parents

Answers: What We Shouldn't Covet 1. c 2. d 3. b 4. a 9th or 10th? 1. a 2. b 3. c 4. b Matthew 20:1-16 1. b 2. c 3. b 4. b Covet Potpourri 1. b 2. c 3. a 4. c