



Small Group Guide: When He Isn't Enough

(Colossians 3:5 and 2 Corinthians 11:2-3)

Sermon Overview: This sermon warns that covetousness is a subtle form of idolatry that happens when God is no longer enough, and our desires, comparisons, envy, or entitlement begin to rule us. The pastor calls believers to renewed devotion to Christ through contentment, gratitude, obedience, and trusting God rather than grasping for what He has not given.

Key Takeaways:

- **Idolatry is a war for your devotion.** Idolatry is not limited to bowing before statues. It is any subtle or intentional act of replacing Christ with a substitute, giving that substitute our trust, worship, allegiance, or devotion.
- **Covetousness is a heart disorder.** Covetousness is the grasping desire for more, whether it is right or wrong to have it, driven by discontentment, comparison, envy, or entitlement. It is not simply wanting something. It is needing something so badly that you will cross boundaries to get it.
- **Covetousness is both a desire problem and a devotion problem.** When our desires begin to govern us more than God does, we are no longer serving God. We are serving our desires. Covetousness ultimately says to God, "You are not enough unless I have this too."
- **The remedy is contentment.** Contentment is not the same as being satisfied with less. It is trusting God enough to wait, to do right, and to believe that He will bring the desires of your heart in His timing and His way.

Main Points Recap:

1. **Idolatry is more subtle than statues.** The sermon emphasizes that idolatry can happen whenever something replaces Christ as the center of trust, allegiance, worship, or devotion.
2. **Devotion to God is a whole-life orientation.** True devotion is not just church attendance or a devotional time; it means living with awareness of God, allegiance to Him, alignment with His will, and an abiding relationship with Him.
3. **Coveting threatens relationship with God.** The preacher frames covetousness as not merely wanting a thing, but risking devotion to Christ for that thing.
4. **God is enough even when we are waiting.** The sermon repeatedly returns to the idea that believers must not treat God as insufficient unless He gives them what they want.
5. **The Holy Spirit examines the church.** The closing warning is that God is drawing near to inspect His people, calling them away from double lives and into genuine devotion.

Discussion Questions:

1. **What's the Driving Number:** On a scale of one to ten, how content would you say you are with your life right now? What is driving that number?
2. **Understanding Covetousness:** The sermon defined covetousness as a heart disorder where one grasps to have more because of discontentment, comparison, envy, or entitlement. Which of those four drivers do you personally find most difficult to resist, and why?
3. **Biblical Examples:** The children of Israel wanted a human king because they were comparing themselves to the surrounding nations. The pastor said that God's response was essentially, "They have a king, but you have me." Where in your life are you trading what God has given you for something the world is offering that looks better on the surface?
4. **Devotion and the Bride Metaphor:** The sermon said that covetousness ultimately risks your devotion to Jesus because it says, "You are not enough unless I have this too." Have you ever been in a season where God genuinely did not feel like enough? How did you navigate that?
5. **Comparison and Culture:** The pastor said, "Do not want what they have. Want what God has for you." What does it look like practically to shift your focus from what others have to what God has specifically for your life?
6. **Contentment as the Remedy:** Philippians 4:11 says that contentment is something Paul learned. It was not automatic. What do you think the process of learning contentment looks like, and what has that process required of you personally?

Practical Applications

Choose at least one:

1. **Audit Your Comparisons:** For one week, pay attention to every moment you catch yourself comparing your life, relationships, finances, appearance, or ministry to someone else. Write it down. At the end of the week, bring your observations back to the group. What patterns did you notice?
2. **Practice Gratitude Intentionally:** The sermon emphasized that without gratefulness, we will always be discontented. Each day this week, write down five specific things you are thankful for that you have not previously acknowledged. Focus on things you often overlook rather than things you typically celebrate.
3. **Identify Your Grasping:** Honestly ask yourself: What is the one thing I feel I cannot be okay without right now? Bring that thing before God in prayer. Ask Him whether your desire for it is healthy or whether it has crossed into covetousness. Share what you discover with a trusted person in your group.
4. **Evaluate Your Media Consumption:** Take a close look at how much time you spend on social media or consuming content that fuels comparison and discontentment. Set a specific, realistic boundary for this week and reflect on how that boundary affects your peace and your focus on God.
5. **Memorize and Meditate:** Spend time this week meditating on Psalm 23. The sermon referenced it as a picture of what it looks like to trust God as your shepherd and provider. Let the language of that psalm reshape how you think about lack and abundance.

