

# Sunday June 30th

## LET'S TALK:

Do you or does someone you know ever have difficulty discerning between wanting and needing something? Why can that be difficult to determine?

Many of us think of coveting as deep jealousy, but Pastor Dave noted that it means strong desire. Can you think of some positive and negative examples of coveting?

#### LET'S STUDY:

Read Exodus 20:17. What are the things the Israelites were warned not to covet? Why was this a significant instruction for God's people at this time when they were being led into the promised land?

What Biblical examples can you recall in which coveting was a 'gateway sin'? Have you personally observed an instance of coveting that turned into another sin?

Read Colossians 3:5. How is coveting idolatry? What are some things you have coveted recently? How has this affected your priorities and your relationship with God?

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10. What does this passage say about contentment? In what should we find contentment? North American culture encourages us to seek wealth, luxury, and excess. Last week, we observed the instruction to work hard so we can give more to others. Do you find these teachings challenging?

### LET'S APPLY:

What impact could wrongful coveting have on the people around you? Has someone else's covetousness impacted you or someone you are close to?

In Luke 12:15 Jesus said, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." How will you guard your heart from materialism so you can live counter-culturally?

Being content with what you have and celebrating another person's successes are ways to combat coveting. Why do you think this is true? What are some practical ways we can focus on what we have versus what we don't have?

If we as a church do not challenge our desires to wrongfully covet things, how could that impact our ability to fulfill our church's mission and vision?

Since personal holiness matters, if we do address our inner motivations, how could that impact our ability to fulfill our mission and vision?

### LET'S PRAY:

Take time to thank the Lord for specific things He has entrusted to you. Ask the Lord to protect you from the inner struggle of believing the lie that you need what others have. Tell the Lord of your love for Him. Praise Him for His love for you.

### **BEFORE NEXT TIME, ON YOUR OWN:**

Find Scripture that discusses the sustaining power and sufficiency of God. Study this Scripture each day and look for opportunities to apply this principle to your life.

The 10 Commandments remind us how sinful we are and then drive us to God and His mercy. This good news is worth sharing. Take time throughout the summer to ask the Lord to bring to mind unbelievers who you are to pray for. Pray regularly for the National Campaign for Alpha starting this Fall https://tryalpha.ca/