

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

Ten Commandments for the 21st Century

March 2013

LESSON # 11 – YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR’S ...

INTRODUCTION

- Why do you think the violation of this Commandment is difficult to evaluate?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: “With the tenth commandment the commandment enters a new world. Up to now the commandments have dealt with outward actions [behavior]; but this commandment deals with inner thoughts [inward lust and greed]. This commandment lays by far the hardest task upon men. To control one’s actions is one thing. To control one’s thoughts and feelings and emotions is quite another.” The Ten Commandments by William Barclay.

Read Exodus 20:17

1. What does it mean to covet? Why is it wrong?
2. Why do you think God was so specific as to enumerate each of these?
3. What are some other things we covet? 1 Tim 6:10; Mk 12:38, 39; Col 3:5
4. Barclay identifies three roots of covetousness: 1) The quest for happiness; 2) Things bring happiness & 3) The covetousness for a person (the desire for someone who does not belong to you). How do these prevent us from enjoying God’s provision? II Cor 9:8

Read Proverbs 4:20-27

5. What guidance is given concerning our sight and our ears?
6. Why are we to keep God’s word in the midst of our hearts? Read Mk 7:14-23
7. What is the benefit of watching over our hearts with all diligence?
8. How does our heart contribute to a deceitful mouth?
9. How can verses 25-27 help us to guard against violating the Tenth Commandment?

APPLICATION

- Identify one area in your life that causes covetousness for you. What steps will you take this week to work on eradicating it?
- What are some practical steps you can take to protect the integrity of your heart to avoid covetousness?

REMEMBER THE GARDEN OF EDEN. *“The taking of that which is forbidden is the old Garden of Eden story - the first of all sins and the begetter of the tragedy of the human situation, and that story is true to life.” Barclay*