

Summary

This sermon focuses on the 10th Commandment from Exodus 20:17 about coveting. The pastor distinguishes coveting from envy and greed, defining it as seeking after something specific that belongs to another person and is off-limits. He explains that coveting occurs when we move beyond simply looking at something to actively desiring and scheming to possess what belongs to others.

Intro Prayer

Lord, as we gather to discuss the nature of coveting and examine our own hearts, we ask that You would give us wisdom and honesty. Help us to be transparent with each other and open to Your conviction and guidance. May this discussion draw us closer to You and to living lives of contentment. Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's something you wanted really badly as a child but never got? How do you feel about it now?

Key Verses

1. Exodus 20:17
2. 1 Timothy 6:7-10
3. James 4:1-2
4. Matthew 4:8-10

Questions

1. How would you explain the difference between coveting, envy, and greed?
2. The pastor mentions that coveting happens when we 'move beyond the look.' What does this mean and how have you experienced this?
3. Why do you think God included coveting as one of the Ten Commandments?
4. What are some ways our society encourages coveting?
5. The sermon mentions three reasons why we covet: thinking happiness is around the corner, believing things can't change, and having things out of order. Which of these do you most relate to and why?
6. How can focusing on the 'value' rather than the 'cost' of things help combat coveting?
7. What role does gratitude play in fighting against covetousness?
8. How can we help each other maintain contentment in a materialistic world?

Life Application

This week, whenever you feel the urge to covet something, pause and ask yourself the three questions from the sermon: What is the value of what I'm looking at? What is missing? Have I asked God for it? Keep a journal of your responses and pray about each situation.

Key Takeaways

1. Coveting is seeking after something specific that belongs to another person and is off-limits
2. We often covet because we think happiness is around the corner, don't believe things can change, or have our priorities out of order
3. Combat coveting by considering true value, recognizing what's missing, and bringing desires to God in prayer
4. Contentment comes from focusing on what God has already provided rather than what others have

Ending Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for showing us the danger of coveting and its impact on our hearts. Help us to be content with what You have provided and to trust in Your timing and provision. Give us the strength to resist the temptation to desire what belongs to others, and instead cultivate grateful hearts that recognize Your goodness in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.