



“THE FIRE OF DESIRE: DON’T’ COVER; BE CONTENT”

EXODUS 20:17 BIBLE STUDY

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THE HEART OF THE MATTER

- **A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. (Lk 6:45, NIV)**
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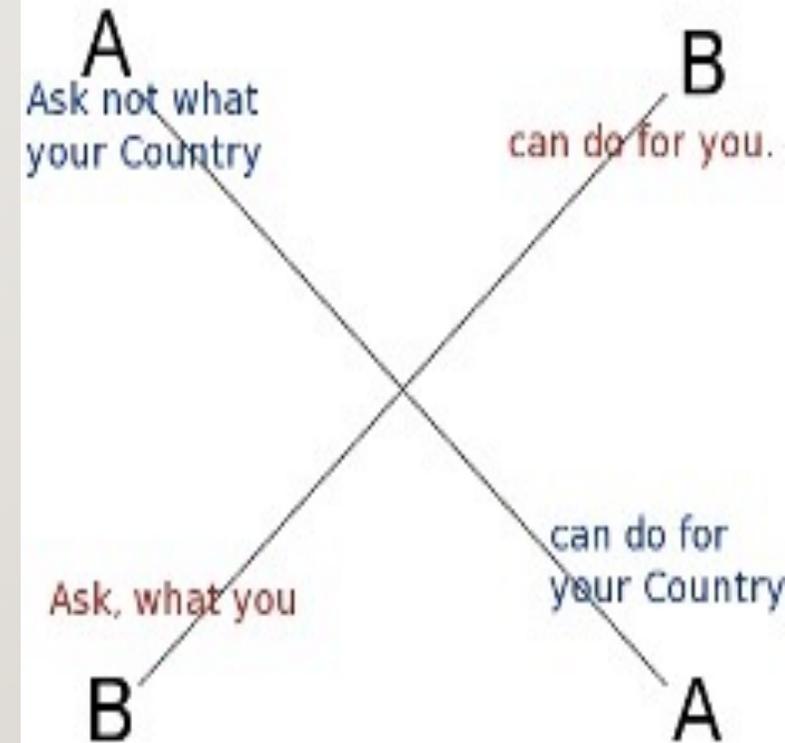


THE HEART OF THE MATTER

- 18 But the things that come out of a person's mouth **come from the heart**, and these defile them. 19 For **out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder** [6th], **adultery, sexual immorality** [7th], **theft** [8th], **false testimony, slander** [9th]. (Mt 15:18-19, NIV)
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THE X COMMANDMENTS

- **A: Thoughts (Commandments 1-2)**
- **B: Words (Commandment 3)**
- **C: Deeds (Commandments 4-8)**
- **B': Words (Commandment 9)**
- **A': Thoughts (Commandment 10)**





DON'T
COVET

- You shall not covet [תַּחַמַּד | *ḥāmad*] your neighbor's house. You shall not covet [תַּחַמַּד | *ḥāmad*] your neighbor's wife or his male slave or his female slave or his ox or his donkey or anything that [belongs] to your neighbor. (Ex 20:17, AT)
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COVET: TO DESIRE

9 the fear of the LORD [YHWH] is clean,
enduring forever;
the rules of the LORD [YHWH] are true,
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be **desired** (תַּחַת | *ḥāmad*) are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.

(Ps 19:9-10, ESV)





COVET:
TO DESIRE

“How long will you who are simple love your simple ways?
How long will mockers **delight in** [תְּהַדָּ | *ḥāmad*] mockery
and fools hate knowledge?

(Pr 1:22, NIV)





MORE THAN A FEELING

- 4 You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything that is from the heavens above, or that is from the earth below, or that is from the waters below the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them nor worship them. For I the LORD [YHWH] your God am a jealous God, punishing the sin of parents on their children, and on the third and fourth generations of those who **hate me**, but showing unfailing love to a thousand generations of those who **love me and keep my commandments.** (Ex 20:4-6, AT)
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MORE THAN
A FEELING

- If you **love me, keep my commands.**
(Jn 14:15, NIV cf. Jn 14:21, 23,
15:14, etc.)



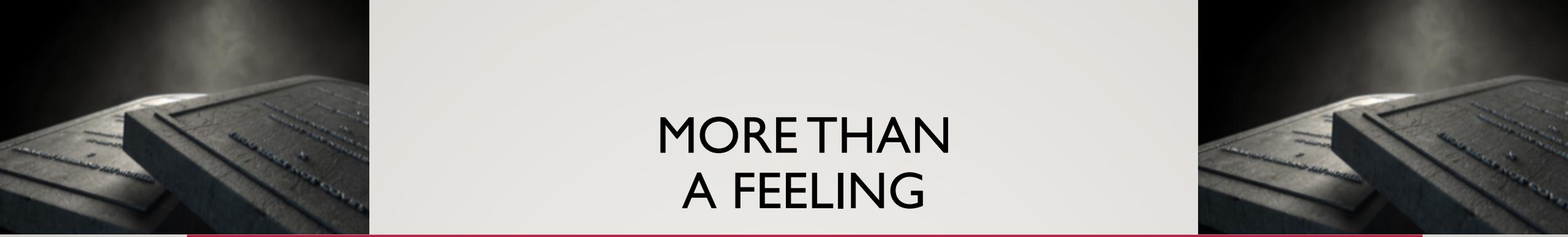
MORE THAN
A FEELING

- **2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. 3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, (1 Jn 5:2-3, NIV)**
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MORE THAN
A FEELING

- The LORD [YHWH] God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were **pleasing** [חַמַּדָּה | *ḥāmad*] to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (Gen 2:9, NIV)
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The top of the slide features a background image of several dark, rectangular Braille blocks. The blocks are arranged in a slightly overlapping manner, with some showing raised Braille characters. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong light source from the right, creating highlights and deep shadows. The overall tone is dark and textured.

MORE THAN A FEELING

- When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and **pleasing** [תֵּאֲוָה | *ta 'awâ*] to the eye, and also **desirable** [תְּמַד | *hāmad*] for gaining wisdom, she **took** some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.
(Gen 3:6, NIV)
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- The bottom of the slide features a background image of a wooden floor. The floor is made of light-colored wood planks, arranged in a parallel pattern. The lighting is warm and natural, highlighting the grain and texture of the wood.



COVETING AND THEFT

- 20 Achan replied, “It is true! I have **sinned** against the LORD [YHWH], the God of Israel. This is what I have done:
21 When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of **silver** and a bar of **gold** weighing fifty shekels, I **coveted** [חָמַדְתִּי | *hāmad*] **them** and **took them**. They are **hidden** in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath.” (Jos 7:20-21, NIV)
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COVETING AND THEFT

- 22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent, and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver underneath. 23 They took the things from the tent, brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites and spread them out before the LORD [YHWH].
 - 24 Then Joshua, together with all Israel, took Achan son of Zerah, the **silver**, the **robe**, the **gold** bar, his **sons** and **daughters**, his **cattle**, **donkeys** and **sheep**, his **tent** and **all that he had**, to the Valley of Achor. 25 Joshua said, “Why have you brought this **trouble** on us? The LORD [YHWH] will bring **trouble** on you today.” (Jos 7:22-25a, NIV)
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THE FIRE OF DESIRE

- Then all Israel **stoned him**, and after they had **stoned the rest**, they **burned them**. 26 Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. Then the LORD [YHWH] turned from his fierce anger. Therefore that place has been called the Valley of **Achor** ever since. (Jos 7:25b-26, NIV)
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COVETING AND FRAUD

11 “ ‘Do not steal. [Eight Commandment]

“ ‘Do not lie.

“ ‘Do not deceive one another.

12 “ ‘Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God.
I am the LORD. [Ninth Commandment]

13 “ ‘Do not **defraud** or **rob your neighbor**.

“ ‘Do not **hold back the wages** of a hired worker overnight. [Tenth
Commandment?]

(Lev 19:11-13, NIV)





COVETING AND FRAUD

- You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder [6th], you shall not commit adultery[7th], you shall not steal[8th], you shall not give false testimony[9th], you shall not **defraud** [10th?], honor your father and mother [5th].’” (Mk 10:19, NIV)
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COVETING AND FALSE WITNESS

- 2 Ahab said to Naboth, “**Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden**, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth.”
 - 3 But Naboth replied, “The LORD [YHWH] forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my ancestors.”
 - 4 So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, “I will not give you the inheritance of my ancestors.” He lay on his bed sulking and refused to eat. (1 Ki 21:2-4, NIV)
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COVETING AND FALSE WITNESS

- anyone who **blasphemes the name of the LORD [YHWH]** is to be **put to death**. The entire assembly must **stone them**. Whether foreigner or native-born, when they **blaspheme the Name** they are to be **put to death**. (Lev 24:16, NIV)
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COVETING,
FALSE WITNESS
AND MURDER

- 12 They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth in a prominent place among the people. 13 Then two scoundrels came and sat opposite him and **brought charges against Naboth** before the people, saying, “Naboth has cursed both God and the king.” So they took him outside the city and **stoned him to death**. 14 Then they sent word to Jezebel: “**Naboth has been stoned to death.**” (1 Ki 21:12-14, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

Houses and wealth are inherited from parents,
but a **prudent wife is from the LORD** [YHWH]. (Pr 19:14, NIV)

Whoso findeth a **wife** findeth a **good thing**,
And obtaineth **favour of the LORD** [YHWH]. (Pr 18:22, KJV)

A wife of noble character is **her husband's crown**,
but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones. (Pr 12:4, NIV)





COVETING AND ADULTERY

- 2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, “She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and **the wife of Uriah the Hittite.**” 4 Then David **sent messengers to get her.** She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her **monthly uncleanness.**) Then she went back home. (2 Sam 11:2-4, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

- The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, “I am pregnant.” (2 Sam 11:5, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

- 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did **not** go down to his house.
 - 10 David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?"
 - 11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and **make love to my wife**? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"
(2 Sam 11:9-11, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

- 1 The LORD [YHWH] sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, 3 but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.
 - 4 “Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his **own** sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the **ewe** lamb that **belonged to the poor man** and prepared it for the one who had come to him.” (2 Samuel 12:1-4, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

- 5 David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the LORD [YHWH] lives, **the man who did this must die!** 6 He must pay for that lamb **four times over**, because he did such a thing and had no pity.” (2 Sam 12:5-6, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

- **“Whoever steals an ox or a sheep and slaughters it or sells it must pay back five head of cattle for the ox and four sheep for the sheep. (Ex 22:1, NIV)**
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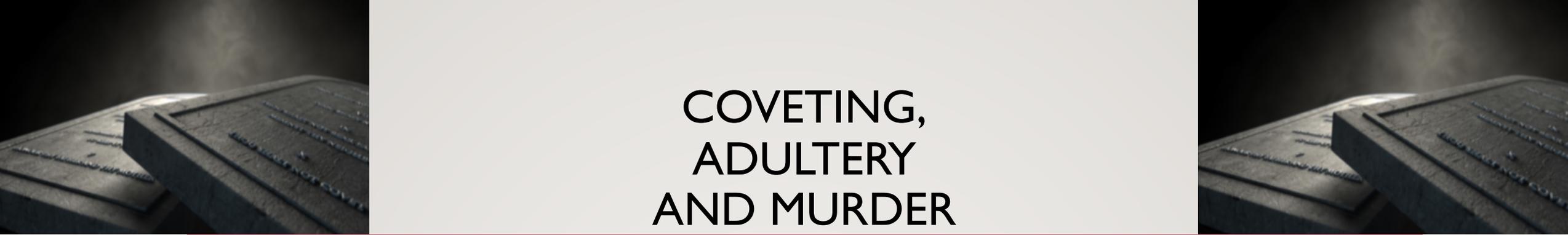
COVETING AND ADULTERY

- 16 The **king**, moreover, must **not acquire great numbers of horses** for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD [YHWH] has told you, “You are not to go back that way again.” 17 He must **not take many wives**, or his heart will be led astray. He must **not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.** (Dt 17:16-17, NIV)
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COVETING AND ADULTERY

- If a man is found **sleeping with another man's wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die.** You must purge the evil from Israel. (Dt 22:22, NIV)
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COVETING, ADULTERY AND MURDER

- 7 Then Nathan said to David, “**You are the man!** This is what the LORD [YHWH], the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. 8 I gave your master’s house to you, and **your master’s wives into your arms.** I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. 9 Why did you despise the word of the LORD [YHWH] by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and **took his wife to be your own.** You **killed** him with the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Now, therefore, the **sword will never depart from your house,** because you **despised me** and took the **wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.**’ (2 Sam 12:7-10, NIV)
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DEUTERONOMIC DIFFERENCES

- “You shall not **covet** [חַמַּדְךָ | *ḥāmad*] your neighbor’s wife. You shall not **set your desire** [אַוְוָהְךָ | *’āwâ*] on your neighbor’s house or **land**, his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”
(Dt 5:21, NIV)
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COVETING: GATEWAY TO UNGODLINESS

- 13 When being tempted, let no one say, "I am being tempted by God." For God is untemptable by evil – and He tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted by **their own desire**, being lured and dragged away. 15 Then **desire**, having **conceived, begets sin; sin**, having been **brought to maturity**, gives **birth to death**. (Jas 1:13-15, AT)
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COVETING: GATEWAY TO UNGODLINESS

- 1 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your **desires** that battle within you?
 - 2 You **desire but do not have**, so you **kill**. You **covet** but you **cannot get what you want**, so you **quarrel and fight**. You do not have because you do not ask God.
- (Jas 4:1-2, NIV)
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COVETING:
GATEWAY TO UNGODLINESS

- When you ask, you do not receive, because you **ask with wrong motives**, that you may **spend what you get on your pleasures**. (Jas 4:3, NIV)
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DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT

- 37 Jesus replied: “ ‘**Love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ [Dt 6:5] 38 This is the **first and greatest commandment**. 39 And the **second** is like it: ‘**Love your neighbor** as yourself.’ [Lev 19:18] 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these **two** commandments.” (Mt 22:37-40, NIV)
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DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT

- 9 The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “**You shall not covet,**” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “**Love your neighbor as yourself.**” 10 **Love does no harm to a neighbor.** Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. (Rom 13:9-10, NIV)
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**DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT**

Keep your lives free from the love of money and **be content with what you have**, because God has said,

**“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”** [Dt 31:6, 8; Jos 1:5]

(Heb 13:5, NIV)





DON'T COVET; BE CONTENT

- 6 But **godliness with contentment is great gain.** 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be **content** with that. 9 Those who **want to get rich** fall into **temptation** and a **trap** and into many **foolish and harmful desires** that plunge people into **ruin and destruction.** 10 For the **love of money** is a root of **all kinds of evil.** Some people, eager for money, have **wandered from the faith** and **pierced themselves** with many griefs. (1 Tim 6:6-10, NIV)
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DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT

- **Put to death**, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, **evil desires and greed**, which is **idolatry**. (Col 3:5, NIV)
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DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT

- 1 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly **loved** children
2 and **walk in the way of love**, just as **Christ loved us** and
gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to
God.
 - 3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual
immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of **greed**, because
these are **improper** for God's holy people. (Eph 5:1-3, NIV)
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DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT

- 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. 5 For of this **you can be sure**: No immoral, impure or **greedy person**—such a person is an **idolater**—has **any inheritance in the kingdom** of Christ and of God. (Eph 5:4-5, NIV)
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DON'T COVET;
BE CONTENT

- 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the **secret of being content in any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 **I can do all this through him who gives me strength.** (Php 4:12-13, NIV)
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