

# Ten Commandments

## You must not Covet



### IN :

Have you ever played or watched the Lottery? Imagine winning! How much would be 'enough' to get or do all you want in life?

Given that your 'neighbour' is unlikely to have many servants, oxen or donkeys what are the things in 21<sup>st</sup> century life that might be the focus of coveting?

Imagine aliens visiting a medieval British city. Observing the magnificence and activity of the cathedral they would conclude Christianity to be the overriding concern of society. What might they see as the priority when visiting that same city today? ...DISCUSS!

### UP:

Either all together or in 2/3's explore some of these passages using these questions.

Psalms 37:4, 1 Kings 8: 57-58, Matthew 6: 19-34, Mark 7: 14-23

What sort of 'desires' are being spoken about.....are they wrong?

What is the root source of the problem?

What are our real priorities to be?

### OUT:

Coveting affects things. What does that look like in relation .....

- With God?
- With people who are wealthy?
- With those who are poor?

And finally to focus our prayer time.

- Define 'contentment'
- How does it interrelate with coveting
- And how do we find and keep it?

### BIBLE READING:

#### Exodus 20: 17 4:1-16 (NIV)

*You must not covet your neighbour's house. You must not covet your neighbour's wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that to your neighbour.'*

#### Matthew 6:19-34 (NIV)

##### Treasures in Heaven

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy,[a] your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eyes are unhealthy,[b] your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

24 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

##### Do Not Worry

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.