

Conquering Covetousness

A. What does it mean to Covet? What is Covetousness?

The word covet is commonly defined as (1): (Verb) 1. To wish for earnestly 2. To desire (what belongs to another) inordinately or culpably. From this definition, to covet means to strongly desire to have something that belongs to someone else.

B. Covetousness is Evident in Complaining – Numbers 11:1-4

- a. God’s response to complaining

- b. Complaining is contagious

C. Covetousness Becomes Active Sin When We Yield - Numbers 11:4-10

- a. When we dwell on desire, yielding is only a matter of time

- b. At the root of covetousness is a rejection of God’s sufficiency

D. Responses to Covetousness – Numbers 11:16-20

- a. In time we may hate what we had to have

- b. Covetousness is consuming

E. The Consequences of Covetousness – Numbers 11:31-35

a. Enough is never enough

b. Covetousness ends in the wilderness

Homework for Self-Introspection:

1. Am I a covetous person? Do I spend more time thinking about people to impact or things to accumulate?

2. Am I reaping the consequences of covetousness in my relationship with God?

3. Am I willing to change my attitude about covetousness?

4. Am I willing to repent? Am I willing to say I have been living for things, relationships & stuff other than God?
