

GOSPEL COMMUNITY GUIDE

Life WITH God : The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:17 | October 5, 2025



CONNECT

When you were a kid, what was one thing you always wished you had? Why did you want it so badly?

QUICK UPDATES

Share any upcoming church events and handle housekeeping for the Gospel Community.

REVIEW

Have someone read the passage out loud from the ESV translation or something similar. Reflect on any insights, questions, or parts that stood out from the text or the sermon. Then read the summary below.

Exodus 20:17 commands God's people not to covet—revealing that sin runs deeper than our actions and exposes the desires of our hearts. Coveting is more than wanting; it is misplaced worship, treating created things as if they could give what only God can provide. In the sermon, we saw that coveting leaves us empty because idols never satisfy, but Christ meets us in our lack and fills us with Himself. True contentment isn't found in getting more, but in treasuring Jesus as enough.

LEARN & LIVE

These questions help us grasp the truth of the passage and consider how to live it out.

- Read Exodus 20:17. Why do you think God names such ordinary, everyday things (house, spouse, servants, animals, etc.)? What does this teach us about how broadly coveting can show up in our lives today?
- How is coveting different from healthy desire or admiration? Give a real-life example of each.
- Read Colossians 3:5. In what sense is coveting “idolatry,” and how does that connect the 10th commandment back to the 1st?
- Scan Exodus 20:13–16. How does coveting often precede breaking the other commands (murder, adultery, stealing, lying)? Share one “root → fruit” pathway you’ve seen.
- Read Genesis 3:6. Where do you see the pattern of “see → desire → take” in modern life?
- Read Numbers 11:4–6. Israel had daily manna yet craved Egypt’s menu. What might be our “Egypt” (things we romanticize) and our “manna” (quiet provisions we overlook)?
- Read Romans 7:7–8. Why does this command uniquely unmask the heart? How has it exposed you recently?
- Read Philippians 4:11–13. What does Paul mean by “learned” contentment? Name one practice this week to “learn” contentment (not just feel it).
- Read Hebrews 13:5. According to this verse, what is the ground of contentment, and how does that change how you budget, scroll, and celebrate others?
- Choose one area you’re prone to compare (home, body, income, success, kids). What is one concrete step you’ll take this week to turn comparison into gratitude and worship?

GO DEEPER

These questions invite us to slow down and wrestle with what’s going on beneath the surface. Use these to go a little deeper or in your Huddle Groups.

- What lie about God sits under your coveting (e.g., “God withholds good from me,” “God won’t provide,” “God forgot me”)? What truth of God counters it?

- When you feel empty, what “functional savior” do you reach for first (purchase, praise, productivity, pornography, platform)? Why that one?
- What would it look like to confess coveting not only as wrong wanting but as misdirected worship?
- Coveting often says, “I am not enough unless I have more.” Where does that lie surface most strongly in your own life?
- How does coveting reveal what you really believe about God—His goodness, His provision, or His timing?
- Why do you think coveting is called “idolatry” in Colossians 3:5? How does that perspective change the way you view it?
- When have you realized that getting what you wanted still left you feeling empty? What did that teach you?
- What makes comparison so powerful in our culture, and how does it fuel coveting in hidden ways?
- Why is it harder to confess sins of the heart (like coveting) than sins of action?
- How have you experienced Jesus meeting you in a place of lack, limitation, or insecurity?
- What is the difference between contentment and complacency? How can you tell them apart?
- In your own words, what does it mean that “Christ is enough”? How would your life look different if you lived fully from that truth?
- Why do you think learning contentment is a lifelong process rather than a one-time decision?
- **How is the Spirit inviting you personally to respond and what will you do differently this week?**

PRAY

- Pray about one way God spoke to you tonight through His Word.
- Pray by name for someone in your life who doesn’t yet know Jesus.
- Pray for the needs of those in the group.
- Pray for this ministry area of Redeemer: **LOVE the NATIONS MONTH** | Take time to pray that God would give each of us a glimpse of His desire for every nation to know and experience His love and forgiveness.

5 GROUP DISCUSSION RULES

We want to be full of grace as we meet, deepening our relationship with one another and with Christ. These five values help us know our **P.L.A.C.E.** in our GC’s and Huddles.

1. **Pray** - Prayer is a space for confession, struggle, and praise. Keep requests focused on yourself and your immediate family, so we can pray specifically and personally.
2. **Listen** - Be present and attentive. Share with humility, be mindful of time, and remember: silence is okay.
3. **Apply** - Answer honestly. Consider how God’s Word speaks into your life, and what it might look like to respond.
4. **Confess** - Confession and repentance are signs of maturity. We meet one another with grace, not shame.
5. **Encourage** - Practical advice is helpful, but truth is better. Speak the gospel into each other’s hearts and stories.

COMMENTARY EXCERPT:

Tenth commandment. The final commandment forbids an individual to covet what belongs to another. Unlike all the other commands, it addresses inner feelings and thoughts such as envy or greed. If the Israelites were to enjoy a harmonious covenant relationship with God, every aspect of their lives must conform to his will. Outward adherence is insufficient; their inner selves must be patterned according to the divine principles of morality found in the Ten Commandments. As Jesus reminds us, to interpret the commandments as requiring only outward obedience is to misunderstand their purpose (Mt. 5:17–48).

Alexander, T. D. (1994). Exodus. In D. A. Carson, R. T. France, J. A. Motyer, & G. J. Wenham (Eds.), *New Bible commentary: 21st century edition* (4th ed., p. 108). Inter-Varsity Press.