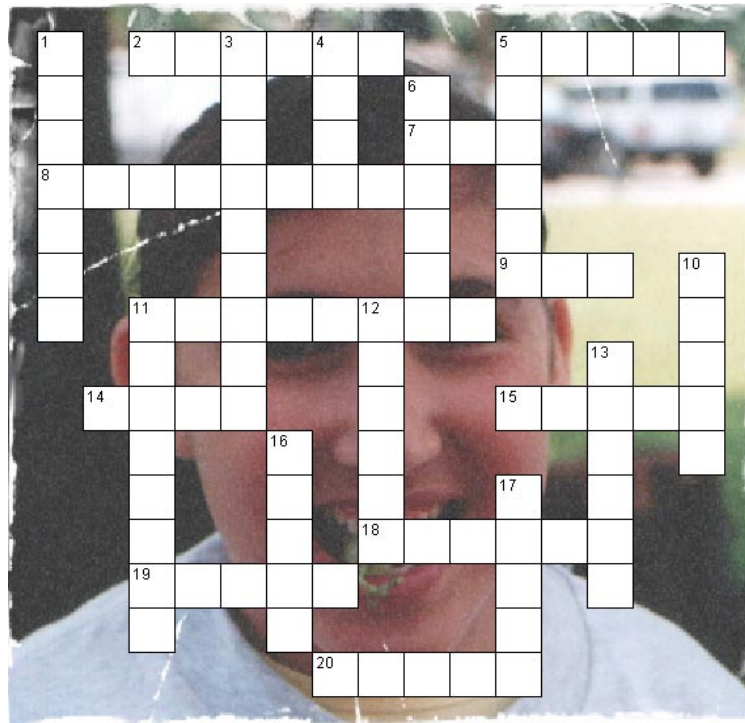


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

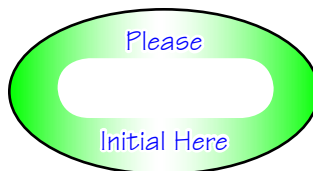


Across

Down

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2. It is actually an ____ to God when we do not trust Him to care... | 1. ...if we seek His _____ first... |
| 5. ...“_____ and be spent” for the sake... | 3. ...contentment means to be _____ |
| 7. ...the ____ is not satisfied with seeing... | 4. ...food, clothing and a place to ____. |
| 8. ...a life of _____ and contentment. | 5. ...the eye is not satisfied with _____. |
| 9. ...we should trust in ____ to supply... | 6. We will strongly _____ the things that we don't have... |
| 11. Because we are God's _____... | 10. The fallen human nature of man is actually _____ satisfied. |
| 14. ...____, clothing, and a place to live. | 11. ...food, _____ and a place to live. |
| 15. ... a ____ to live. | 12. ...in the Epistle to the _____... |
| 18. The apostle Paul learned the _____ | 13. ...be spent for the sake of the _____. |
| 19. ...we need... to trust in God to meet all of the ____ that we have. | 16. God takes care of the _____. |
| 20. ...“spend and be _____” for the sake of the saints. | 17. We should ____ in god to supply... |

Parent's Initials:



2-6

The Ten Commandments

- Lesson Twenty-One -

The Tenth Commandment (2) You Shall Not Covet

I. Overview.

In this lesson we continue our consideration of the tenth commandment. The tenth commandment tells us that we should not covet. In the previous lesson we saw that coveting was an inward sin – something that takes place inside us. It can be the source of many outward sins, but it begins within our heart.



We should trust in God and be satisfied with what we have.

In this lesson we will see that there is a secret which will help us to avoid coveting. This secret is simply to be satisfied with what God has allowed us to have and to trust in God for all our needs. If we fail to trust God and we are dissatisfied with what we have, we can easily fall into desiring things that we don't have. This is coveting. Additionally, when we have trouble trusting that God will supply us with what we need, we become anxious. Coveting and anxiety are signs that we are lacking in our trust of God and satisfaction with His provision.

II. Memory Verse.

“I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be content.”

(Phil. 4:11b)

III. Lesson.

Because we are God's children, we should never be anxious about not having the things that we need. We should trust in God to supply us with the necessities of life such as food, clothing and a place to live.



God Cares For Our Needs

The Bible tells us that if we seek God's kingdom first, He will ensure that we have all the things that we need. It says that we should learn from how God takes care of the birds. They never miss a meal – and we are much more important than birds are. It is actually an insult to God when we do not trust Him to care for us in this way.

God is fully able to supply us with all that we need.

The Bible also tells us that we should be satisfied with the things that we have. If we have food, clothing and a place to live, we should be satisfied. If we are not satisfied with the things that we have, we will begin to covet other things. We will strongly desire the things that we don't have, and probably don't even need. The fallen human nature of man is actually never satisfied. Ecclesiastes 1:8 says "the eye is not satisfied with seeing."

The Secret is to Be Content

The apostle Paul learned the secret of how to overcome coveting. He indicated in the Epistle to the Romans that he was troubled by his own coveting. But in Philippians, Paul tells us that he had learned the secret of being content in whatever circumstances he was in.

If we can learn the secret of being satisfied with what God has given to us, we will be free from coveting. Paul encouraged us to seek to live a life of godliness and contentment. To have contentment means to be satisfied with what we have. If we are not satisfied and try to fulfill our desires, we will be "chasing the wind" (Ecc. 1:14).

Eventually, Paul tells us that he did not want things for himself, but rather he would "spend and be spent" for the sake of the saints. This is a proper heart before God. It is also a heart free from coveting. Like Paul, we need to learn the secret of being satisfied with what we have and to trust in God to meet all of the needs that we have.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What causes us to be anxious?

2. What does Ecclesiastes mean when it says that the eye is not satisfied with seeing?

3. What is the secret that Paul learned?

4. What does it mean to have contentment?

