

Covetousness Bible Study

Guarding the Heart from Greed, Lust, Jealousy, and Discontentment

Scripture gives strong warnings about covetousness. Greed and covetousness can become a trap that destroys faith, families, and lives. God warns that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

How to use this study: Read each passage in your Bible, then write your answers on the lines provided. Take your time. Ask the Lord to search your heart and lead you in repentance, surrender, contentment, and truth.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. The Warning Signs of the Last Days

Read **2 Timothy 3:1-5**.

1. What will people be like in the last days?

2. According to verse 5, they will have a form of _____ but deny its power.

3. What instruction are we given concerning this type of person?

2. When Someone Claims to Be a Believer but Lives in Sin

Read **1 Corinthians 5:9-13**.

4. Who does Paul tell us not to keep company with?

5. What specific sins are mentioned in this passage?

6. Why is this different from separating from unbelievers in the world?

3. The Rich Fool and the Trap of Possessions

Read **Luke 12:13-21**.

7. What problem was brought to Jesus in verse 13?

8. What warning did Jesus give in verse 15?

9. What was the rich man's retirement plan?

10. What did God say to him?

11. According to verse 21, what should we be rich toward?

4. Seek First the Kingdom

Read Luke 12:22-34.

12. What does Jesus tell us not to worry about?

13. What does He tell us to seek?

14. Where should our treasure be?

5. Sins That Keep People from Inheriting the Kingdom of God

Read Ephesians 5:3-5.

15. What specific sins are listed in this passage?

16. What does Paul say about covetousness?

6. Put to Death What Is Earthly in You

Read *Colossians 3:5-10*.

17. What are we told to put to death?

18. Because of these things, what is coming?

19. What are we told to put off?

7. Jeremiah's Warning: Covetousness Among the People

Read *Jeremiah 6:13-16*.

20. According to verse 13, who was given to covetousness?

21. What false message were they speaking?

22. In verse 16, what three instructions did God give?

23. What did God say they would find for their souls?

24. What was their reply?

8. Guarding the Heart

Read *Proverbs 4:23-27*.

25. Why must we guard our heart?

26. What are we told to put away from our mouth?

27. What should our eyes look toward?

28. What should we ponder?

9. What Comes from the Heart?

Read *Mark 7:21-23*.

29. What sins come from the heart and defile a person?

30. Why is the heart so important in the battle against covetousness?

10. The Condition of Man Without God

Read *Romans 3:10-19*.

31. How many are righteous?

32. How many seek God?

33. According to verse 18, what is not before their eyes?

11. The Works of the Flesh

Read *Galatians 5:19-21*.

34. What works of the flesh are listed?

35. What warning is given about those who practice such things?

12. Temptation, Lust, Sin, and Death

Read *James 1:13-15*.

36. Is God the One who tempts us?

37. When we are tempted, what causes us to be drawn away?

38. When lust conceives, what does it bring forth?

39. When sin is finished, what does it bring forth?

Notice the progression: unguarded desires can pull us away, entice us, conceive sin, and finally bring death.

13. Standing in the Gap

Read *Ezekiel 22:30*.

40. Who did God seek for?

41. Did He find anyone?

42. What does this reveal about the need for intercession and repentance?

14. Abimelech: Coveting Power

Read Judges 9:1-21.

Abimelech wanted power, but he was not chosen by God as king. In order to seize power, he murdered his brothers, except for one who escaped. His covetousness for power and rule overtook him and destroyed others.

In Genesis 4, God warned Cain that sin was lying at the door and desired to rule over him, but Cain had to rule over it. Like Cain, Abimelech allowed jealousy, pride, and covetousness to control him.

43. Am I trying to control something God has not given me?

44. Do I become jealous when someone else is honored, chosen, or given a better position?

45. Am I content with what God has given me?

46. How can I surrender this to God?

15. A Debased Mind

Read Romans 1:28-32.

47. Since the people did not want to retain God in their knowledge, what did God do?

48. What sins are listed as signs of a debased mind?

Read 2 Corinthians 13:5.

49. What does Paul tell us to do?

16. False Teachers and Covetousness

Read 2 Peter 2:1-3.

50. What will false teachers secretly bring in?

51. By covetousness, what will they do?

52. What will they use to exploit people?

17. Contentment

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8.

53. Godliness with contentment is _____.

54. What should we be content with?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:5-6.

55. Why was God not pleased with many of His people in the wilderness?

56. What warning is given to us from their example?

Closing Heart Check and Prayer

57. Lord, what hidden sin, secret covetousness, jealousy, greed, pride, or discontentment do You want to reveal in me?

58. What desire, fear, person, position, possession, or situation do I need to surrender to You?

Prayer: Lord, search my heart and know me. Reveal any hidden sin, secret covetousness, jealousy, greed, pride, or discontentment. Help me guard my heart and surrender every desire to You. Teach me to be content with what You have given me. Keep me from being ruled by sin, and help me walk in the ancient paths that bring rest to my soul. In Jesus' name, amen.
