

Exodus 20:17
A Baseline Sin

I wants it ...

- I. A Root Commandment
 - A. Consider the Above
 - B. Examine Your Heart
- II. Envy & Idolatry
 - A. Objects of Lust
 - B. Materialistic Magnets
- III. Godliness with Contentment
 - A. Satisfaction
 - B. With God's Provision

... and I need help.

Children, Listen ...

1. What is coveting?
2. The things mentioned in the 10th Commandment may not be things that you might covet, but what things might your friends have that might cause you to break this command?
3. If there is something that makes you stumble, what should you do about it?
4. Check off the things that will help keep you from coveting?
 - Being thankful to God for what you have.
 - Complaining to God (or parents) that you don't have what other kids have.
 - Being happy that your friend has something really cool.
 - Figuring out a clever way to get the thing your friend or sibling has that you want.
 - Always remind yourself about how much the Lord has blessed you.
 - Remembering all the "stuff" of this world will pass away.
 - Remembering that nothing in this world is as great or glorious as heaven will be.

In Sum

Coveting is one of those sins that seems to rear its ugly head early in life and that, if not kept in check, can stick with us to the end. Toddlers often begin grabbing things from other little ones and that same spirit of envy, while taking on different forms, can plague us throughout our days. Not only that, but coveting seems to be a driving force behind violating the other nine commandments. It is a force within us to be contended with, and it must be. We cannot let covetousness linger. Paul clearly states in Colossians that coveting is idolatry. Perhaps this would be a good day for adults to pay close attention to the children's questions and process them honestly.

Just two quick remedies here.

1. Bask in the riches you possess on earth and in heaven in Jesus Christ.
2. Constantly remind yourself of God's love for you and the way he faithfully provides for you.

May God grant us the grace to learn the secret of contentment and to find great satisfaction in His loving provision for us.