



# Potomac Hills

## Presbyterian Church, PCA

By Grace Alone ~ Through Faith Alone ~ In Christ Alone

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Exodus 20:17

August 20, 2017  
English Standard Version

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### *“Moving from Resentment to Contentment”*

The 12<sup>th</sup> Sermon in a series on The Ten Commandments entitled

### *“The Movement of Grace!”*

**Exodus 20:1, 17**

*“And God spoke all these words, saying, ... <sup>17</sup>“You shall not **Covet** your neighbor’s house; you shall not **Covet** your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”*

*Heavenly Father, this is Your Word and we need it. We need to be reminded of what makes God great! We need the Law of the Lord. We need to be reminded that God’s Law is for our benefit, to bless us, to give us wisdom, and to lead us to our Redeemer. Thank You that the Ten Commandments point us to our Redeemer. We need the redemption He offers. And so, we pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit, help us see Jesus, in His Name we pray, amen.*

#### **INTRODUCTION: A Family Bonding Experience**

Many years ago, before all of our children had grown up, we decided to do a very traditional family bonding thing ... we went **camping**. We found a nice campground in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. It had a beach and pools and it looked great. So we were going to have this wonderful time, drove to the campground, got all checked in, got our campsite, and pitched our large three-room family size tent and our small two-person tent. Everything was going **just swell**.

And then one night, we had a **gigantic thunderstorm**. The rain pounded down ... and started coming in the tents. We piled everything on top of the air mattresses, so they wouldn’t float away and our stuff wouldn’t get wet. And the thunder and lightning seemed to be getting

closer and closer. Until finally it struck right between our tents ... well not really, **but it seemed that way**. Just lit the tents up. Super loud. And the two boys in the small tent came flying into the big tent. And we ended up with all seven of us huddled up in a ball, on top of our stuff, on top of our air mattresses, cold and shivering, wet and miserable, and **scared out of our minds**. It was almost like winter.

So, the next morning, we got up, pushed the water out of tents, started wringing the water out of all our wet stuff, no one had gotten any sleep, and we were trying to build a small campfire with wet wood ... which wasn't going very well. And we were left with **soggy Life cereal** for breakfast. **Not a lot of happy campers**. This is why family camping is considered a bonding experience, Amen?

**But then** ... another family checks in to the campsite right next to ours. And they had one of those pop-up campers. And it was **automated**. They parked right next to us, got out of their luxury SUV, **and pushed a button**. And the camper just opened up. All by itself. No poles. No ropes. No stakes.

And then they **plugged it in**. And a small stove came out the side. And they made a hot breakfast, with **pancakes**, and **sausages**, and **hot coffee**. And we were just standing there, watching them, in this pathetic line, in our wet clothes, holding bowls of **soggy Life cereal**, and we were the Norman Rockwell picture ... of **Coveting**. [We offered to trade a couple of kids for the camper, but our kids looked **so miserable**, they wouldn't go for it.]

As I wrote you earlier this week, **Coveting** is simply wanting what someone else has. But God says that there are **some things** that are not yours to want, there are **some desires** that when they go uncontrolled end up harming us, they affect our lives **negatively**, and they cause

...

### **James 4:1-3: RESENTMENT ABOUT WHAT WE DON'T HAVE <sup>1</sup>**

*"What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your **passions** are at war within you?" <sup>2</sup> You **desire** and do not have, so you murder. You **Covet** and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask **wrongly**, to spend it on your **passions**." There are five negative effects of **Resentment** ... five negative effects of always **wanting more** ... five negative effects of **Coveting**. There may be more than five, but there are at least five. And the first one is ...*

- **Coveting leads to being TIRED**

In other words, in our push to get more, we do too much. We work too hard. We become committed to the material rat race. And so we get fatigued ... we get tired. I know of one family that has four cars, three job, two drivers. And you've got to wonder ... is four cars really worth it? **Proverbs 23:4** says, *"Do not toil to acquire wealth; be discerning enough to desist."* Another version translates that, *"Have the wisdom to show restraint."* The Bible says its dumb to wear yourself out just to get more stuff.

The second negative effect of always wanting more is that ...

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**1 The Exposition of the text is adapted from the book, Chasing Contentment: Trusting God in a Discontented Age by Eric Raymond. I cannot recommend this book highly enough! **My sermon**, *"The 10th Thing You Need ~ Peace"* preached here at Potomac Hills on 9/14/97. **And the sermons**, *"Learning to be Content"* by Dr. Rick Warren, Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, CA, 11/1/92; *"Contentment"* 1/28/90 and *"The Freedom of Contentment"* 7/3/94, both by Dr. Timothy Keller, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, *The Tim Keller Sermon Archive*, Logos Bible Software 7.8.**

- **Coveting leads to being TRAPPED** <sup>2</sup>

How does **Coveting** trap us? It traps us with debt. **Ecclesiastes 5:11**, “*When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes?*” Easier to understand, the New Living translates that, “*The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what good is wealth—except perhaps to watch it slip through your fingers!*”

**Coveting** destroys budgets. It creates needs out of what are really wants. It’s created a culture of get it now, pay for it later. So much so that the average two-income household in America has \$113 dollars in debt for every \$100 they make. And the numbers are much worse for single-income households. That’s called deficit spending and only the government can get away with it. What that means is that if you make \$118,000 a year, then you probably owe \$133,000 in consumer debt (**not** counting home mortgages). And you probably feel trapped. Most of us feel trapped by debt. And that’s what Paul tells Timothy in **1 Timothy 6:9**, “*But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.*” Again, the New Living says that they “*are **trapped** by many foolish and harmful desires.*” The third negative effect of always wanting more is that ...

- **Coveting leads to being TENSE**

We worry about what we don’t have, we worry about how we’re going to get it, and we worry about how we’re going to keep it. Because the more we focus on something, the more tense we get about it. The more you have, the more you have to worry about. How am I going to protect it? How am I going to save it? How am I going to invest it? How am I going to insure it? How am I going to keep from paying taxes on it? How am I going to keep from losing it? The more you have, the more you worry, the more tense you are.

And now, if you add the first three effects together ... you put **being tired** with **being trapped** with **being tense** ... and you get the fourth effect. And the fourth negative effect of always wanting more is that ...

- **Coveting leads to being TROUBLED**

People have conflicts over money more than any other subject. More conflict in the home, more conflict on the job, more conflict in the church ... all over money issues. Paul says this is particularly true of false teachers, **1 Timothy 6:4b-5**, “*He has **an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels** about words, which produce ... <sup>5</sup> **constant friction** among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of **gain**.*” James 4, which we’ve already read, says the same thing, “*What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? ... . You **Covet** and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.*” When you have what I want, there’s going to be conflict over it. It’s going to cause trouble. So God says, “Don’t **Covet** something that’s someone else’s. Don’t **Covet** someone else’s job. Don’t **Covet** someone else’s car. Don’t **Covet** someone else’s house. Don’t **Covet** someone else’s wife. Don’t **Covet** someone else’s husband.” ... “Oh, I wish I had a husband like that, always sensitive to his wife’s feelings.” “Oh, if only I had a wife like that, someone who would do what I want.” God says, “Don’t Do It! Don’t **Covet**! It will only bring you trouble.”

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<sup>2</sup> Financial information is aggregated from articles on Bloomberg, Smart Asset, USA Today, and The Motley Fool.

And finally, the fifth negative effect of always wanting more is that ...

- **Coveting leads to being TEMPTED**

If we always want more, then we're never satisfied with what we have. We suffer from dissatisfaction. We struggle with **discontent**. And dissatisfaction and **discontent** lead us into temptation. Because more is never enough. Back to **Ecclesiastes**, where we read, **Ecclesiastes 5:10**, "*He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.*" And when we're not satisfied, we begin to look elsewhere. And it's those desires that lead us into temptation. **James 1:14** teaches us that "*each person is **tempted** when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.*" And again, **1 Timothy 6:9** reminds us, "*But those who desire to be rich fall into **temptation**, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.*"

And let's be honest, we're usually not satisfied with what we have, at least not for long. How many of you are still satisfied with what you got last Christmas? How many of you can still **remember** what you got last Christmas? So what do we do? What's the antidote to **Coveting**? How do we overcome resentment about what we don't have? I think the answer comes in our next passage, where the Apostle Paul talks about "*learning contentment.*" Because **contentment** comes neither naturally or easy, it must be **learned**. And that's the provision of grace ...

**Philippians 4:11-13: CONTENTMENT WITH WHAT WE DO HAVE**

Here we have the Apostle Paul in prison, facing and expecting death, and he has the audacity to say, "*Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have **learned** in whatever situation I am to be **content**.<sup>12</sup> I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have **learned** the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.<sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.*" Well, what are the important things that we do have? What do we need to be **content** with? Well, first, we need to **learn** to

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- **Be Content with FAMILY**

The commandment says, "*you shall not **Covet** your neighbor's wife...*" or husband, or children. We have to **learn** to be **content** with our family. They're the most precious gift God has given you. Are your kids perfect? I doubt it. But that's okay, neither are their parents. Is your spouse perfect? I don't think so. But that's okay, you're not perfect either. So **learn** to be **content** with the family God has given you, even with all their problems ... and then maybe they'll **learn** to be **content** with you too. The commandment continues, "*you shall not **Covet** your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant...*" Well, most of us don't have servants ... but we do have friends. And so, we need to **learn** to ...

- **Be Content with FRIENDS**

These are the people God's placed into your life. The people who live in your neighborhood, the people you work with, the people you go to school with, the people sitting next to you right here in church. And people bring us the greatest joys and the greatest frustrations. You ever wonder why Jesus said, "*Love your neighbors*" and "*Love your enemies*"? Often, they're the same people. God has brought these people into your life, and He wants you to be friends with them. He wants you to build relationships with them, and He wants you to be **content** with them. A lot of people spend a lot of their lives looking for new and better friends. And it usually doesn't work. And I understand that it's hard sometimes to be **content**

with our families and to be **content** with our friends. That's why it's a **learned** experience. And that's also why this next one is so important. Because we soon come to realize that we need to **learn** to ...

- **Be Content with FORGIVENESS**

So, people are a pain in the neck ... sometimes. So are you ... sometimes. So am I ... sometimes. All the more reason to forgive. Because we need their forgiveness just as much as they need our forgiveness. And together, we all need God's forgiveness. But thankfully, that's something that God loves to do. He loves to forgive. And He wants us to **learn** to love being forgiven. So then we can love others, love our friends, love our families ... by forgiving them ... most of the time, just for being themselves. So **learn** to be **content** with forgiveness, the forgiveness you have, and the forgiveness you give. It's the best thing we've got going for us. But sometimes, even forgiveness is hard. It's hard to look past the hurts. So how do we do that? The only way to do that is by **learning** to ...

- **Be Content with JESUS**

Over and over, the Scripture teaches us to get our eyes off of ourselves, and look to Jesus. The Apostle Paul tells us in **Colossians 3:1-2**, "*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.*" And in **Hebrews 12:1-3**, we read, "*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*"

So when we can **learn** to be **content**, in any and every circumstance, as Paul said, then we'll be able to live at peace with ourselves and with others, overcoming this craving to get all that we can. We know what we shouldn't do – **Covet**; and we know what we should do – **be content**. But all of that is easier said than done. So how do we get there? ...

**APPLICATION: How do we Live at Peace?**

Very quickly, here are four ways to live at peace by learning to be content ...

- **Resist Comparison**

Quite simply, comparison always leads to **Coveting**. In fact, the Bible says we shouldn't compare ourselves with others, **2 Corinthians 10:11-12**, "*Let such a person understand that what we say by letter when absent, we do when present. <sup>12</sup> Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. **But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.***" That means comparing ourselves with others is not only **unwise**, without understanding, but it's also **unbiblical**. It's **unwise** to compare cars, clothes, houses, kids, spouses, whatever. It's not wise, and it creates dissatisfaction. And, as I've already said, dissatisfaction leads us into temptation.

So, how do you react when you see someone with a nice car? "Boy, I wish I had that car." Or you can just be glad that they have it. We can admire without having to acquire. How do you react when you see someone with a nice house? Or beautiful furniture? I mean, you go over there and wonder, "Wow, their furniture goes all the way back to Louis XIV (14<sup>th</sup>). Our

goes back to Sears on the 15<sup>th</sup> ... if we don't make the payments. One of the greatest lessons we can **learn**, and we can teach our children, is how to admire without having to acquire. I can enjoy a lot of things without having to own them. If the only things you enjoy are the things you own, you're going to be pretty miserable for much of your life, because you can't own everything. Even Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon, one of the richest men in the world, doesn't own everything. He **sells** everything, but he doesn't own everything. Simply put, all our comparing does is reveal our insecurities. And the fact that we're trying to keep score by our possessions. And the Bible says when we do that, we're living *without understanding*.

Second, we can live at peace by **learning** to ...

- **Be Grateful**

We have to **learn** to appreciate what we have. Be grateful to God for what He has given you. Once again, back to Ecclesiastes and the wisdom of King Solomon, **Ecclesiastes 5:19**, *“Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to **enjoy** them, and to **accept** his lot and **rejoice** in his toil—this is the **gift** of God.”* Notice the words, *‘enjoy – accept – rejoice – gift.’* God is saying, “Be grateful for what you have. It’s okay to enjoy it. It all comes as a gift from God.” You see, we have to be careful not to fall into the trap of ‘When and Then’ thinking. When and Then thinking says, **“When** I get \_\_\_\_\_, **then** I’ll be happy.” You fill in the blank. **When** I graduate, **when** I get married, **when** I have kids, **when** I get a better job, **when** I get that new car, **when** I get my debts paid off, **when** I get my kids through college, **when** I can finally retire ... **then** I’ll be happy. No ... probably not. Because **when** the newness wears off, **then** we’ll want something else, and we’ll be back in the trap of ‘When and Then’ thinking.

In **1 Timothy 6:17** it says, *“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, **who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.**”* Happiness is not getting whatever you want ... happiness comes much more from enjoying what you already have. Third, we can live at peace by **learning** to ...

- **Be Generous**

God doesn't bless you for your own benefit. He wants you to share it. The next two verses in Timothy, speaking of those who are *rich in this present age*, tell us, **1 Timothy 6:18-19**, *“They are to do good, to be rich in good works, **to be generous and ready to share,** <sup>19</sup> thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.”* So, the question becomes, Can we own a lot of things without becoming materialistic? And the answer is yes ... but. The “but” coming from the precautions we find in these verses ...

1. Don't be proud or arrogant about wealth.
2. Don't trust in money, but hope in God.
3. Use your money to do good and be rich in good works.
4. Be generous with your money and willing to share.

And the Bible says that if you do those things, then you'll be laying up treasure in heaven. And that's a mark of spiritual maturity. And finally, we can live at peace by **learning** to ...

- **Trust God**

We have to go back to focusing our eyes, fixing our eyes on what's going to last. Give our attention to what's important, to what's permanent to what's eternal. Because everything

you see is eventually going to decay, or rust, or break, or fall apart, or blow up ... it will eventually **not exist**. What will remain is the relationship you have with God and the relationships you have with people.

**2 Corinthians 4:17-18** teaches us that *“For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,<sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.”* It’s not enough to have plenty to live on ... if you have nothing to live for.

The worst thing about **Coveting**, and **discontent**, and **materialism**, is that they cloud our vision of God. We begin to think that life is about acquisition. But getting more stuff never leads to **contentment**, it only leads to **Coveting**. And Jesus said, **Luke 12:15**, *“Take care, and be on your guard against all Covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”*

*“You shall not Covet...”* **Coveting** is this inner grasping. **Coveting** is not stealing. **Coveting** is not committing adultery. **Coveting** is not killing. Those things have been covered in the earlier commandments. **Coveting** is that inner grasping after things that says, **“I have to have these things** or I’m so empty.” *“You shall not Covet”* means you shall love God enough **to be content** in all circumstances. That’s what the commandment is. The First Commandment and the Tenth Commandment are like bookends, and they summarize the whole.

The First Commandment was, “Love God with all your heart. Put nothing before Him. Be totally absorbed in Him.” The Tenth Commandment **is the result**. The First Commandment is to love God, and the Tenth Commandment is if you love God enough, love God enough so that **you’ll be content** in all circumstances. Then all the rest of the commandments in between fall in place.

If I love God enough to be **content** in all things, why would I want to steal money? Why would I want to steal sex? Why would I want to steal status? Why would I want to steal revenge? Why would I need these things? Pleasure is nice. Pleasure is created by God. Money, comfort, sexuality ... These things are created by God. They’re nice. They’re good. But they’re just icing on the cake. They stimulate your taste buds, but **they are not food**. Can you imagine living on icing? What would happen to you? Imagine what would happen if you were living on icing. What would that do to your body? What do you think living on icing does **to your soul**? A person who is loving God enough to **be content** is saying, “These things are nice, but they’re not crucial.” If I love God enough to **be content** in all things, then the lifestyle of obedience to the Ten Commandments flows out of that. The life of integrity (the ninth commandment). The life of generosity (the eighth commandment). The life of purity (the seventh commandment). The life of forgiveness (the sixth commandment), and so on. It all just flows out.

That’s the reason the Apostle Paul was **converted** by the Tenth Commandment. Paul tells us the story of his conversion in Romans 7. He says, *“I was once alive apart from the law.”* That means, “I felt good about myself. I thought I was godly.” Let’s read the whole thing, **Romans 7:7b-12**, *“Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”<sup>8</sup> But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead.<sup>9</sup> I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died.<sup>10</sup> The very commandment that promised life*

proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup> For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup> So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.”

Do you know what he’s saying? “For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “**You shall not covet.**”<sup>8</sup> But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. ... sin came alive **and I died.**” **The commandment killed me.** He’s saying, “I thought I was a godly person until I was meditating on this commandment, “*You shall not Covet* ...,” and I began to realize what it said. It says a godly person will love God enough so that nothing else is necessary so that **he will be content** in all circumstances, in plenty and in want. Suddenly Paul says, “I’m not **anything** like that.” He was **convicted of sin.** He says, “I can’t even **come near that.** I’m not godly at all. Help me!” That was the beginning of his conversion.

I don’t know where you are this morning, but I would hope you will hear this message by realizing you’re nowhere near what the Bible commands. **These other things** that you have to have, that you **Covet**, that you grasp after, which are never there as much as you want them ... they force you to run around in a state of **being discontent.**

There’s this marvelous quote by the journalist Cynthia Heimel, who writes for *The Village Voice* ... She was writing about three people who are big celebrities (I took their names out, but you’d know them). Listen to what she says ... “The minute a person becomes a celebrity is the same minute he/she becomes a monster. ... When God wants to play a really rotten practical joke on you, he grants your deepest wish and then giggles merrily when you suddenly realize you want to kill yourself. [Obviously, she’s not a Christian, but this could have been taken right out of Romans 1]. The night each of them became famous, they wanted to shriek with relief. Finally! Now they were adored! Invincible! Magic! The morning after the night each of them became famous, they wanted to take an overdose of barbiturates. ... If they were miserable before, they were twice as miserable now, because that **giant thing** they were striving for, that **fame thing** that was going to make everything okay, that was going to make their lives bearable, that was going to provide them with personal fulfillment and happiness had happened. **And nothing changed.** They were still them. The disillusionment turned them howling and insufferable.”

Sometimes the best way God can bring you to your senses is to give you what you think will satisfy you. So you can **learn** that it doesn’t ... and won’t. Because until you understand that you’re incapable of **contentment**, you’re actually incapable of **contentment.** Do you get that? Until you understand you’re incapable of it, you’ll never be capable of it.

Once again, The Tenth Commandment is really just the First Commandment put in psychological terms. The First Commandment says, “**You shall have no other gods before Me.**” The Tenth Commandment says, “**You shall be completely content and not Covet or grasp for anything.**” There shouldn’t be anything you want so badly it makes you miserable if you can’t have it. There are plenty of things you can want, but they should not make you miserable if you don’t have them. You know what? That’s the First Commandment. The only things you’ll want **so bad**, that if you don’t get them you’re miserable, are things that you put before God. If you have no other gods before God, you will not **Covet.** If you **Covet**, it’s because you have other things before God.

**It’s the same commandment.**



**Psychologically**, idols are things that give you your self-esteem and identity. **Sociologically**, idols are the things that give you credibility with other people. **Theologically**, idols are the things that make you feel acceptable in the sight of God. These are things you say, “If I have them, and only if I have them, will I make it.” So whenever you’re unhappy, whenever you’re **discontented**, whenever you’re bitter, whenever you’re miserable, ask yourself, “What besides Jesus has taken title to my heart? What besides Jesus has become my salvation, my identity, my joy, my main preoccupation, my loyalty, or my delight?” That’s the question. There’s no more profound thing I can tell you about **contentment** than this.

***You have to preach the gospel to yourself.*** This simply means you have to say, “This is not the thing that gives me value. This is not my righteousness. This is not what makes my life worthwhile. It’s what **Jesus** has done for me. It’s what **Jesus** says about me.” You have to see that. You have to recognize that. You have to understand that. And it starts when you come and say, like the Apostle Paul, “I thought I was alive, but this commandment has slain me. I thought I could make it. I thought I could do it, but now I see how far short I fall. I have been leveled by this commandment. Help me!” That’s the beginning of the path that led to the place where Paul could write, “*I have **learned** in whatever situation I am to be **content**.*” Think about that ... You need to pray. Take a moment to do that, and then I’ll close.

*“A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot ... Love does not envy ... Godliness with **contentment** is great gain.”*

*Dear Heavenly Father, this tapestry of Scriptures is both convicting and consoling. It’s convicting, because on a daily basis, I can be envious of anyone in sight and **Covetous** of anything within reach. I can get envious of people who have less hassles and more resources; people who can play harder and need less sleep; people who can eat cake and lose weight; extroverts who are at home in any setting, while I struggle to make eye contact. I don’t **Covet** my neighbor’s ox or donkey, but I want his ability to run without knee pain. I don’t **Covet** my neighbor’s male or female servant, but I would love to have his golf game and his Beach House. Lord, have mercy **on me**, the sinner.*

*But Lord, as convicting as these verses are, they are even more consoling; because through the gospel I realize that all I really need is Jesus, plus what you choose to give me. If I was given everything I **Covet**, my bones would rot. It would **never** be enough. Indeed, ingratitude is cancer of the soul; coveting is heart disease; selfishness is dignity theft. There’s a Jesus shaped hole in my soul that only He can fill. Thankfully, He has and continues to do so.*

*Our Lord and our God, thank You that You have spoken to us by Your Son. Open our eyes that we might see our sin and then see our Savior. So very Amen I pray, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.*

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**Hebrews 13:5-6****#GraceMoves**

*“Keep your life free from love of money, **and be content with what you have**, for He has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”*