

I. Greed Unmasked

The Definition of Greed

1. Greed is the desire to _____.
2. Greed is deadly because it is _____.

II. The Cure for Greed

The Goal of Generosity

1. When I'm generous I look like my _____.

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- Greed is natural but giving is _____.
- Giving is a chance for my faith to intersect with God's _____.
- Giving is a step out of the _____ boat into the sea of _____.

Romans 5:9

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

- Giving is a test, a tool and a _____.

Luke 12:34

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Generosity always results in _____.

Malachi 3:10

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

- Generosity is literally an _____ of blessing.

We get to
give –
not give
to get

- God's blessing comes in various _____ in our life: spiritual, physical, emotional, financial.

Psalm 37:25

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

Proverbs 11:24

One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

3. Generosity is _____.

2 Corinthians 9:2

For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action.

- Our attitude regarding stuff will either be _____ or _____.
- _____ Generosity and joy are always _____.
- Character and generosity are the pillars of all great _____.
- Contagious generosity allows others to "catch" _____.

III. Escaping the Grip of Greed

November 19, 2006

The Joy of Letting Go

Luke 12:15

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

1. _____ without owning.
 - Goods quickly morph into _____.
2. _____ the hold.
 - If it owns you, _____ it up.
3. Take the _____ challenge.
 - If you aren't content where you are, you will never be content where you _____ to be.

Philippians 4:11-13

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

4. _____ out.
 - Spiritual victory always follows admitting your _____.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Week 7: Escaping the Grip of Greed