

# Greed

**AWARENESS** Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you define greed? Do you think you struggle with it? Why or why not?
- What consequences of greed have you observed in your own life or in the life of someone close to you?



**LISTEN TO THE EPISODE:** [Greed](#)

**READ** [Mark 10:17-25 & Isaiah 58:7-10](#)

**REFLECTION** After listening, consider the following questions:

- How has your opinion about another person's relationship with money or possessions affected your opinion about their worth or value to your community? Is it an accurate reflection of their value in God's eyes?
- How can our desire for security lead us to fall victim to greed? In what other areas of life might the attitude of greed lead you to trust in created things rather than the Creator?
- James Ogilvy once wrote, "Greed turns love into lust, leisure into sloth, hunger into gluttony, honor into pride, righteous indignation into anger, and admiration into envy. If it weren't for greed, we would suffer fewer of the other vices."\* Where in your life has the attitude of greed taken something good and turned it into a vice?
- Which ideas discussed in segment 3 seem practical to you for counteracting greed (e.g. finding joy in acts of generosity, rejecting the consumer culture, rejoicing in what you have)? Are there specific areas (money or otherwise) where you need to begin cultivating your spiritual health to work against an attitude of greed?

\*James Ogilvy, "Greed" in *Wicked Pleasures: Meditations on the Seven "Deadly" Sins*, ed. Robert C. Solomon (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 1999).

**RELATED PASSAGES** for further study

[Matthew 6:19-24](#), [1 Chronicles 29:14-16](#), [Philippians 2:1-11](#), [2 Corinthians 8:1-15](#), [Matthew 19:16-30](#), [Luke 18:18-30](#)

## CONCLUSION

In [Luke 12:15](#) Jesus warns, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” Pray for God’s grace and mercy for the times you’ve fallen victim to greed, and request his strength and help to follow Jesus’ warning.

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<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/greed>

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