

# Group Leader Guide

## What Would Jesus Say – part 4 “to the greedy”

### Sermon Recap

What if the very thing you think will bring happiness is actually stealing your joy? When 25% of Americans would abandon their families for \$10 million, Pastor Chris reveals greed isn't about how much you have—it's how tightly your heart grips it. Through Paul's secret of contentment and the radical antidote of generosity with time, talents, treasure, and testimony, this message exposes how open-handed living transforms takers into givers.

### Ice Breaker

If you could live in any fictional world for a day, where would you go and what would you do?

### Discussion Questions

1. What from the sermon stood out to you? How were you challenged, motivated, or convicted from what you heard?
2. Pastor Chris shared that greed isn't about how much you have, but how tightly your heart clings to it. What's the difference between wanting nice things and being greedy?
  - a. Pastor Chris defined greed as 'an insatiable desire for more - especially for wealth, power, or possessions - that replaces trust in God and leads a person to put things above God and others.' He emphasized that greed has nothing to do with how much you actually have.
  - b. Think about something you really want right now. How can you tell if your desire for it is healthy or if it's becoming greedy? What would it look like to hold that desire with an open hand instead of a closed fist?
3. Paul wrote in Philippians 4:11-13 that he 'learned to be content' and 'learned the secret' of being satisfied in any situation. Why do you think contentment has to be learned rather than just happening naturally?
  - a. Pastor Chris pointed out that Paul said twice that contentment was something he learned, not something that happened instantly. He emphasized that contentment means 'my happiness is not dependent on happenings' and that most people get caught up in 'when and then' thinking.
  - b. What's one area of your life where you find yourself thinking 'when this happens, then I'll be happy'? How might you start practicing contentment in that area right now, before your circumstances change?
4. Pastor Chris mentioned that comparing yourself to others always leads to discontent. Why do you think social media and our culture make it so hard to avoid comparisons?
  - a. One of the lessons for learning contentment was to avoid comparisons. Pastor Chris gave the example of looking at model homes and then going back to your own 'shack,' explaining that there will always be people who have more money, opportunities, or fewer problems.

- b. When do you find yourself comparing your life to others the most? What's one practical step you could take this week to focus more on what you have rather than what others have?
5. The sermon talked about being generous with time, talents, treasure, and testimony. Which of these four areas feels most challenging for you to be generous with, and why?
  - a. Pastor Chris explained that generous living involves being open-handed with all that God has given us - our time, talents, treasure, and testimony. He emphasized that God wants us to use what we've been given to make a difference in the world rather than keeping everything for ourselves.
  - b. What's one specific way you could be more generous in your most challenging area this week? How might taking that step help you trust God more and loosen greed's grip on your heart?
6. Pastor Chris said that Jesus taught 'where your treasure is, there your heart will be also,' meaning our money leads and our heart follows. How does this flip our usual thinking about money and emotions?
  - a. Pastor Chris explained that we often think our heart leads and our money follows, but Jesus said it the other way around. He taught that when we give intentionally and generously, our hearts start loosening their grip on things and tightening their grip on God.
  - b. Looking at how you actually spend your money, what does it reveal about what your heart values most? What would need to change in your giving or spending to better reflect your desire to put God first?

## **Prayer**

- Ask for prayer requests from the group.
- Seek God's guidance in learning contentment in every aspect of life.
- Pray for the strength to trust God's provision over material desires.
- Ask for help in becoming more generous with time, talents, and treasure.