



TEN: Don't Covet | June 21, 2016

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Wanting what others have robs the world of your unique story. You have been given a story to co-write with God that only you can tell.

Key Verse

Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Discussion

Since it's in the Bible, it seems looking at what other people have isn't new as a result of the internet. We don't get to lay claim to discovering this new sort of self-indulgence inside of us. We have always been creatures that wish we had what others have.

1. What was one thing you wanted so badly as a kid? Why?
2. What things do you wish you currently had? Why?

Monetary gains and possessions can be motivating but wanting what others have, while potentially motivating, is damaging to our hearts. It can begin to affect our feelings toward others and shift our focus off of our story to either wishing we had theirs or telling ours in a way that betters theirs...neither is authentically ours.

3. What things have you observed in the lives of others that you wish you had? Have you ever thought you deserved it? Have you ever thought you deserved it more or they didn't deserve it at all?

God says it pretty simply, "Don't want other people's stuff." The Bible further says not to copy the behaviors of others. Instead, we should look to God. What has God given you, what does He want to accomplish through you, how would you ever know if you wanted someone else's story?

4. Name 3 skills you have, 3 things you possess/own, and 3 things you have accomplished.
5. What thing are excited about accomplishing in your life and how might that be a part of the story you are writing with God?

What's Next?

The only way to know what God wants from you is to spend more time with him asking clarifying questions and sharing your desires with Him. The 3 critical things to protecting yourself from wanting other peoples' stuff and moving forward out of the rut of doing so are:

1. Assess where you are: What do you have? What is unique to you?
2. Look around and celebrate what others have...Celebrate what they celebrate.
3. Bring your concerns, struggles, and desires to God. Have conversations with him.