

BIG IDEA

You can never get enough of that which cannot satisfy.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Reflect on a time in your life where you felt content. What stands out to you about that season?

Split up into two different groups for the following activity: Group 1: Spend 10 minutes finding as many Bible verses about **greed** as you can. Group 2: Spend 10 minutes finding as many Bible verses about **generosity** as you can.

Come back as a group and share what you found. What does the full counsel of Scripture tell us about greed and generosity?

This activity is a great way to get all of your group members involved and to grow more familiar with the entire Bible. Encourage your group members to use a variety of tools. Google searches, Bible Apps, and Bible dictionaries/concordances are all great resources. We hope you are surprised at all of the wonderful insights your group can glean from this kind of exercise!

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Reflect on the "would you rather" scenarios that Pastor Cal shared in the message this week:

- Would you rather make \$50,000 if all your friends and relatives made \$25,000 or \$100,000 if all your friends and relatives made \$200,000?
- Would you rather live in a 2,500 sq. ft. house if all your friends and relatives lived in a 1,500 sq. ft. house, or 4,000 sq. ft. house if they lived in a 6,000 sq. ft. house?

What surprised you about the answers most people gave? How would you answer those questions?

Read Proverbs 14:30. How often do you find yourself asking, "How well am I doing compared to others?" How might this habit be impacting your spiritual health? The author of this Proverb says that envy rots the bones. Comparing ourselves to others eats us up from the inside out.

Do you tend to compare yourself to people who have things "better than you" or people who have things worse? Why?

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When we struggle with greed and discontentment, it is often because we are fixated on those who we think are doing better than we are—the classic "keeping up with the Jones" syndrome. Check out **Psalm 73** to get a deeper perspective on this kind of comparison.

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Explore <u>www.globalrichlist.com</u> on your own this week. What new, healthier perspective is God giving you about contentment?

Identify one area of your life where discontentment is the norm. What habit will you start (or stop) this week to learn contentment in that circumstance? George Santayana once said, "Habit is stronger than reason." In order to be transformed, we don't just need to think differently, we need to change our habits. Help your group members identify some habits that keep them stuck in a framework of comparison or discontent and some habits that could help move them forward. This *Focus on the Family* article on Learning Contentment might be a great resource to share!