



Face the Issue:

This week Jeremy taught us that worship is a lifestyle based upon giving. Giving to God our all and not holding back. During the sermon he pointed out that the opposite of a lifestyle of worship is greed. When most of us think of greed, we automatically think of money. But, as Jeremy said, greed in our worship life is about more than just money. Greed is a deadly sin, and through it many people are hurt.

Is greed more likely to take hold in a person's life when he they have an abundance or when he have little? Why do you think greed is so strong when people actually do have a lot, rather than just a little?

What are some of the deadly consequences of greed?

Into the Word:

Read 1 Timothy 6:6–10.

What does this passage reveal about greed? How is contentment described? How do you think someone can be content without being wealthy, or at least well off?

Jeremy listed several things that we can turn over to God during a lifestyle of worship. Besides just money, he listed time, security, relationships, etc.

Look at this version of verses 9 and 10. Fill in the blank with each of the above words.

“Those who want _____ fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of _____ is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for _____, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

For each of these words, list the dangers and griefs that can be caused by loving them more than God.

Money-

Time-

Security-

Relationships-

Read Colossians 3:1–5

Paul said that greed “amounts to idolatry.” Why do you think this is true?

Can a Christian turn the things we listed above into idols? What is the way out? How does one overcome this problem according to the first few verses of Colossians 3?

Apply The Word

Jeremy shared with us that living a lifestyle of worship meant to “turn our lives over to God fully”. Many may think that means to be a missionary or full time evangelists but that is not always the case. Christ taught us that the greatest commandment was to love God with all our hearts, minds, and strength. That is a lifestyle of worship.

The Bible teaches us that there is a great divide in the world: there is God’s righteous kingdom where people love each other, do good for each other, and try to serve God wherever they can. These people are living a lifestyle of worship. Against that is the world of darkness, trying to make people sin, tempting us, leading us astray, and making our lives miserable. This is the world of greed.

Living the lifestyle of worship in this materialistic, “look out for number one” world, sets us apart. Jeremy mentioned the song “Jesus Freak”. The words of the chorus are:

What will people think
When they hear that I'm a Jesus freak
What will people do when they find that it's true
I don't really care if they label me a Jesus freak
There ain't no disguising the truth

Have you ever been accused, because of your Christian faith and actions, of being crazy or being “a freak”? Why do you think the world looks at Christians that way?

Have you ever wondered about your impact upon the world? Would being called a “freak” tell you that you may be having some effect?

Pray and ask God to reveal to you ways that you can accept the challenge of transforming your life into a life where worship happens everyday in terms of what we turn over to God as we interact with Him and others. Make Sunday morning just one moment in a week full of worship.