



Growth Group Homework and Discussion Questions

For the Week of November 8-14, 2009
"Losing the Weight of Greed"

Homework:

Before your Growth Group meets, take about 20 minutes on your own to complete the following...

- Read Philippians 4:10-20
- Paul said that he "learned the secret of being content." Reflect on the life of Paul. What "courses" could he teach in the "School of Contentment?"
- How has God taught you contentment? What level of learning are you at right now in the "School of Contentment" – Preschool, Elementary, Middle School, High School, College, or Graduate School?
- Ask God to show you where you need to grow when it comes to contentment.

Growth Group Discussion Questions:

The following questions are to be discussed when your Growth Group meets this week.

My Story:

1. We all know that money can't buy happiness. Of the things money can buy, what do you long for the most?
2. Share one thought from your homework or the message, "Losing the Weight of Greed," that has hit home for you this week.

Digging Deeper:

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-19

1. Discuss this equation: Godliness + Contentment = Great Gain. How have you found this to be true? What is the "great gain"? What equation does our culture use for "great gain"?
2. What do verses 7-10 say about the kind of things we should and should not desire?
3. What does Paul command Timothy to do in verses 11-16?
4. Discuss how the following statements help us in our struggle with greed:
 - "Fight the good fight of faith"
 - "Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called"
 - "In the sight of God, who gives life to everything"

- “Until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ”
5. According to verses 17-19, what should be our view of earthly wealth? What should be our view of heavenly wealth?

Living It:

1. Greed is a desire for more. Contentment is to not need more. Do you think it is harder to overcome greed and be content when you have very little or when you have a lot? Explain.
2. In Luke 12:15, Jesus warns us to be on guard against “all kinds of greed.” We tend to think of greed as wanting more money or possessions. What other kinds of greed do we need to watch out for?
3. When do you feel most vulnerable to discontent and greed? What has helped you to overcome at those times?
4. While our current economic situation is certainly not easy or enjoyable, how might God be using this recession to bring about positive growth in you? In your family? In your church family? In society?