



Welcome to Women's Bible Study

A Ministry of Autumn Ridge Church

December 1, 2010

Please turn off cell phones as a courtesy to our speakers. Thank You!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **FALL SURVEY:** Fall evaluation forms are available in the lobby. Please fill one out and return it to the registration table today or mail it to the church by December 10. Your feedback is important to us!
- **SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS NEXT WEEK:** Please note groups are meeting for fellowship next Wednesday, December 8. Childcare will be available both morning and evening at ARC.
- **CAROLING AT SUNRISE COTTAGES:** Small groups or individuals please join Jamie Urch on Tuesday, December 14, at 6:45PM at 4220 55th St. NW. We'll sing in Cottage #1 (NW corner) first. After relocating to several other cottages, we will head to Baker's Square for pie and fellowship. ALL AGES welcome - children too! Contact Jamie with questions jism4u@gmail.com.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER:** Chantal O'Driscoll and family on the loss of her father and Joyce Freiheit and family on the loss of her mother.
- **WBS RESUMES ON JANUARY 12, 2011:** There will be no WBS from December 9, 2010 - January 11, 2011. You do not need to register again for the winter/spring series from Titus and 2 Timothy. Look for more information in Ridgelines beginning December 18-19. All small groups and table groups will remain the same unless otherwise requested. If you know of someone who would like to participate in the winter/spring session, please email Michelle Johnson michellej@aridge.org, call 288-8880 or register online at www.autumnridge.org/adult/women/bible-studies.html. The Women's Bible Study Leadership Team wishes you and your families a peaceful and joyous Christmas and New Year.
- **ALL WBS WEEKLY MATERIALS FROM THIS SERIES ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.**

Dear Friend,

With today's topic, God's Contentment, we come to the end of our study of the Ten Commandments. I hope that we've been able to see them as an unbroken chain, flowing from the first and most important commandment, You shall have no other gods before me. And yet we are not able to keep a single one by ourselves. Rather than being discouraging, I find this really freeing. If it were up to me, I'd give up. As it is, though, I know that I can rely on the Spirit's power to teach the truth and convict of sin as I make my way through these requirements. I understand that I don't have to keep the law perfectly in order to approach God, because Jesus has already kept the law perfectly on my behalf. What a relief! Yet the framework of the Ten Commandments enriches us because they show us the mind of God - his standards and his desires for how we view him and how we treat others.

In looking at our topic today I'm reminded of the old story about the man who was horribly envious of what his neighbor had. He was given the chance to wish for whatever he wanted in all the world, provided that his neighbor would get twice as much of whatever he wished for. So the man wished that one of his own eyes would be removed.

What an awful picture of what covetousness does to us! It's not enough to have what we have. We want what someone else has. Worse, we can't stand the thought that they might have something better than us, so we try to bring them down. Covetousness is mixed with envy and greed. It's the enemy of contentment and it's the opposite of the nature of Christ. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." (2nd Cor. 8:9).

*We are rich in so many ways. But at this Christmas time I pray that we would remember we are rich because Christ came into our world under the most humble circumstances. We are rich, because he made himself poor. So let's be content, and thankful, and joyful. I pray that you will have a blessed Christmas time and that you'll come back in January when we look at Paul's letters to Titus and Timothy in the series **Spiritual Legacy: Passing on What You Know**.*

Every blessing to you!

Gretchen Steer

Today we are hosting a team of six women from Grace Church, Eden Prairie, headed by their Director of Women's Ministries, Sue Raia. They'll be joining us this evening for discussion and dinner with our Women's Bible Study Leadership team, with the intention of observing our team ministry in action. Please welcome them warmly.



Women's Bible Study Weekly Outline

Today's Lecture from Exodus 20:17 is by *Gretchen Steer*
App #10: God's Contentment

I. Overview of Covetousness

- A. What is it?
- B. Why include it?
- C. What's so bad about it?

II. Signs and Symptoms of Covetousness

- A. We show it in thought, conversation and action.
- B. We are too busy for spiritual life.
- C. We don't care how we get what we want as long as we get it.
- D. We pursue what belongs to others.

III. Treatment of Covetousness

- A. Simplicity
- B. Giving
- C. Thankfulness
- D. Holy Spirit power

IV. The Antidote to Covetousness is Contentment

CHURCH EVENTS:

- **Food 4 Friends** – December's food of the month is macaroni and cheese. Please drop off donated items in the Ministry Center between weekend services or at the ARC reception desk during the week.
- **Christmas Outreach Opportunities:** A combined Christmas musical by the worship team and choir will be presented the Weekend of December 4-5 during all three services. The children will present their Christmas musical "Follow the Star" the next weekend, December 11-12, also during all three weekend services. Consider inviting family, friends, or neighbors to these opportunities to hear the Gospel message.
- **Christmas Eve Services:** Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ on Friday, December 24, at 2:30 PM (Traditional), 4:00 PM (Contemporary), and 5:30 PM (Contemporary). There will be no services on December 25. Sunday Services on December 26 will be at the usual times of 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM.
- **New Year's Eve Service:** Enter the New Year with a heart of hope and thanksgiving as we worship together at 6:00 PM.