



Introduction

We all have wants. Life can feel like a constant pursuit of those wants. We want to do what we want to do. We want constant pleasure. And we want what we want now. But actually getting what we want can be tricky...and even dangerous. It usually leaves us wanting more. If what we want leads to a cycle of wanting more and more, maybe we want the wrong things.

Discussion Questions

1. When the question was asked in the sermon, “What do you want?” What came to mind?
2. Can you tell of a time when you had a seemingly innocent want give birth to a sin, habit, or a regret?
3. Read James 4:1-3 According to James, what is the source of our conflicts? Why would we not ask God for what we want? Why would He not give us what we want?
4. In what ways do we “covet” and “kill” to get what we want?
5. What are some ways that getting what we want right now keeps us from getting what we really want?
6. Have you ever pursued something you wanted that conflicted with something you valued?
7. Have you ever taken the time to ask yourself what you really wanted –long term? What do you value? How can you tell?

Shaping Your Mind *You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. James 4:2b-3*

Moving Forward – Lurking in the shadows of what we want is what we value. You’ll never get what you really want until you discover what you really value. Jesus challenged all of our assumptions about what is valuable and what is not. He pointed us toward a different kind of wanting. If you follow him, you’ll pursue what is of greatest value.