

Bible Study Series: Overcoming the  
“Seven (7) Deadly Sins”  
Today – *Greed and Lust*

Foundation Scripture(s): Various



## Some Definitions of Greed

- Excessive desire, especially for wealth or possessions
- Excessive consumption of or desire for food; gluttony
- **Avarice** – insatiable greed for riches; inordinate, miserly (stingy) desire to gain and hoard wealth

What does  
the Bible say  
about  
“Greed”?

**Proverbs 15:27 (New King James Version)**

<sup>27</sup> He who is greedy for gain troubles his  
own house,  
But he who hates bribes will live.

**Isaiah 56:11 (New King James Version)**

<sup>11</sup> Yes, *they are* greedy dogs  
*Which* never have enough.  
And *they are* shepherds  
Who cannot understand;  
They all look to their own way,  
Every one for his own gain,  
From his *own* territory.

What does  
the Bible say  
about  
“Greed”?

**Ephesians 4 (especially VV. 17 – 19)**  
**(New King James Version)**

<sup>17</sup> This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,

<sup>18</sup> having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

<sup>19</sup> who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Some Very  
Bad Things  
About  
“Greed”

- Greed, in the Bible, is NOT associated with anything good!
- See 1 Timothy 3:1 – 8.
- Jude 11
- 1 Timothy 6 (especially V. 10)
- Greed can be interchanged with covetousness and that’s really NOT good (See Colossians 3:1 – 11; especially V. 5).

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## Some Very Bad Things About “Greed”

- Greed says “I need more...”
- “And more....and more...”
- Greed often implies taking advantage of and mistreating others to satisfy self.

Some Signs of  
“Greed”  
(Questions to  
Ask Ourselves)

- Do I see my possessions as mine or God’s?
- If I knew that I was going to die soon, what would I do with the resources that God has given me?
- Why do I want more?
- What’s more important to me – more stuff or my eternal destiny?
- What is the source of my security: God or stuff?

Some Signs of  
“Greed”  
(Questions to  
Ask Ourselves)

- When I lose stuff, how do I deal with it?
- Do I cling to my stuff or am I generous and share?
- Am I willing to compromise Godly character just to get more stuff?
- Do I gravitate quickly to “get-rich” schemes?
- Am I in bondage to stuff and thus debt?



How do I get  
rid of my  
“Greed”?

- **With God’s help, radically separate from ALL greed. Put it to death! (See Colossians 3 again)**
- **It begins with our thoughts! (See Proverbs 23:7 and Romans 12:1 – 3)**



Scriptures Used  
For “Greed”

- Proverbs 15:27; 23:7
- Isaiah 56:11
- Ephesians 4
- 1 Timothy 3
- Jude 11
- 1 Timothy 6
- Colossians 3:1 – 11
- Romans 12:1 - 3

“Bro. Mills,  
What About  
“Lust”?”

- Well, we can apply all we have discussed about “greed” to “lust”.
- **Lust** – longing; desire; craving for the forbidden (Remember the Garden of Eden!)
- **Lust** – intense sexual desire or appetite; pleasure; delight
- Lust is ALWAYS BAD!!!!!!!

Some Final  
Comments About  
“Greed” and  
“Lust”

- **Greed and lust are violations of God’s Perfect Will!**
- **Lust and greed are virtually the same and ALWAYS BAD!**
- **We are to stop greed and lust in our MINDS. They should NEVER be moved to ACTION.**
- **Greed and lust should NEVER be desired or tolerated.**
- **Nothing is to be desired before or above God.**



Scriptures Used  
for “Lust”

- **Matthew 5:27 – 28\***
- **Mark 4:13 – 20**
- **Romans 1:17 – 32; 6:12 – 13; 13:14\***
- **Galatians 5:16 – 26\***
- **Ephesians 2:3; 4:22\***
- **2 Timothy 2:20 – 22**
- **James 1:13 – 17; 4:1 – 8**
- **1 Peter 1:13 – 16; 2:11 – 17; 4:1 – 6\***
- **1 John 2:14 – 17\***
- **2 Corinthians 10:5**