

The Cure for “More”

This message explores Jesus’ warning against the desire for ‘more’ and shows how we can guard our hearts and discover true contentment through gratitude, generosity, and a shift in perspective.

The Cure for “More” -- Rick Atchley 11/17/24

1. Rick mentioned that in four decades of ministry, he has never heard anyone confess to covetousness. Why do you think this particular sin is so rarely acknowledged? Follow up: **Read Luke 12:13-15**. What might “the more virus” look like in our lives today? Why do you think it’s so tempting to measure life by what we own?
2. **THE “RESENTMENT” VIRUS: Diagnosis. Read Exodus 20:17.** The 10th commandment against coveting is closely tied to idolatry. How might the desire for “more” reveal areas where we are replacing God in our lives? Follow up: Reflecting on the story of David and Bathsheba, how did one instance of coveting lead to breaking multiple commandments? Can you think of other examples where coveting acts as a “gateway” to other sins?
3. **THE “RESENTMENT” VIRUS: Symptoms.** Rick provides several self-diagnostic questions to identify covetousness. Which of these resonated most with you: *thinking patterns, ability to rejoice with others, life planning around wants vs. God’s mission, or unease about biblical teaching on money*? Follow up: Rick also noted that the “more virus” creates distance between people because they come between “me” and “more” (**See James 4:1-2**). How have you seen the pursuit of more affect relationships in your own life or community?
4. **THE “RESENTMENT” VIRUS: Cure. The treatment is contentment. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8.** Why do you think Paul links godliness and contentment? How can cultivating contentment change our perspective on what we truly need?
5. **THE “CONTENTMENT” VACCINE: Grow MORE grateful. Read Philippians 4:4-7.** How might gratitude & rejoicing protect us from constantly wanting more? What are some specific ways you can practice gratitude daily to guard your heart against the “more virus”?
6. **THE “CONTENTMENT” VACCINE: Become MORE generous. Read Acts 20:32-35.** How does generosity help break the grip of covetousness? In what ways could you practice generosity this week to shift your focus from accumulating to giving?
7. **THE “CONTENTMENT” VACCINE: Acquire MORE perspective.** The conclusion mentions that at funerals, we don’t talk about possessions but rather about stories and impact. How might keeping this perspective affect the way we live and make decisions today?

