



## CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE  
Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit  
H. – Hear & Heed  
I. – Imagine & Insight  
F. – Focus & Function  
T. – Totally Transformed

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

### FUNCTION

November 15 – Thou shall not covet

Scripture:

*I love you Lord, and I lift my voice*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYV0ce3ybEA>

**Memory verse:**

Exodus 20: NIRV

<sup>17</sup>“Do not want to have anything your neighbor owns. Do not want to have your neighbor’s house, wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey.”

**Let us read together:**

**Mark 7:20-23 (NIRV)**

<sup>20</sup> He went on to say, “What comes out of a person is what makes them ‘unclean.’ <sup>21</sup> Evil thoughts come from the inside, from a person’s heart. So do sexual sins, stealing and murder. <sup>22</sup> Adultery, greed, hate and cheating come from a person’s heart too. So do desires that are not pure, and wanting what belongs to others. And so do telling lies about others and being proud and being foolish. <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from inside a person and make them ‘unclean.’ ”



## **Philippians 4: 11 – 13 (NIRV)**

11 I'm not saying this because I need anything. I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. 12 I know what it's like not to have what I need. I also know what it's like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more than enough or not enough. 13 I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.

### **Message:**

#### **Let's talk about it.**

Let us first begin by learning the word "covet". Think about it. How often have you been dissatisfied with what you have? What leads you to think that what you have is not enough? To covet means to want something selfishly, without caring about what others think or feel. You will never own enough, do enough, or be enough. Of course, there is nothing wrong with wanting things. There is nothing wrong with wanting more. O yes, it is perfectly fine to want things. The problem comes when you feel that you want something so much, you think about it all the time. Or you feel that you should take it from someone else, even be jealous of someone who has what you think you want. Coveting is all about being jealous of what others may have. It can become very easy to allow our hearts to slip into a wrongful sort of desiring, and that is to fill our thoughts of the things of this world instead of the things of God.

The memory verse lists a whole set of things - our neighbor's house, wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to our neighbour. Those things really don't concern us right now. But the verse ends by telling us to not covet anything that belongs to our neighbour. So, who is our neighbour? Our neighbour is not just the people who live in the house next door. Our neighbour is anyone with whom we come into contact, anyone that we meet is our neighbour. The person who sits next to us in school, the persons with whom we play cricket, or basketball, or any sport. Even the persons we meet in the bus. These are all our neighbours.

So what is wrong with wanting something that someone else possesses you may ask. What is wrong with wanting more? What is wrong with wanting to get good marks like the guy who sits next to you in class? What is wrong with aspiring to be the top student, or to be selected as a prefect. Nothing! Not everything that you desire may be covetousness.

Covetousness is like a little seed, buried deep in our hearts, which will grow like a weed and turn into other sins. If you want something so bad that it makes you jealous of a friend, you may lie or steal to get what you want and what they own. Coveting leads to other sins, and that is what we need to be careful about. Like we said, coveting is a sin that happens in the heart. It does not start

out as something we do, but as something we feel. Only God can see what is in our hearts. And when we covet, God sees that we are not content with what He has given us.

When we keep telling ourselves that we want more and more and more, we are really telling God that what He has given us is not enough. When we focus on what other people have, we forget to thank God for what we have. Then that becomes a big problem, because God has given us so much! Sometimes we find that we want these things so much that they become more important to us than God. Coveting means the things we desire are more important to us than God. When we covet, we cannot respect and love God like we should.

Come on now. I am sure that you will not want that.

Paul, in his letter to the Philippians (Philippians 4:11 – 13) is asking the people no matter what, to be content with what they have and to seek strength from God. It is through thanking God for what He has given us, that we will not entertain any thoughts of coveting. God has promised to give us all our hearts desires, but we must promise to wait on Him, and be content with what we have. Contentment is the opposite of coveting. Being content with what we have is one way to trust in God.

**Let us pray:**

Dear God, we thank you for your forgiveness of our thoughts when they are against Your wishes. Purify our thoughts so that we can really see You, and be contented with all You have given us. We thank You dear Lord for all You have given us. Let us not look at what our neighbour has with envy, but to use all that we have to love and praise You more. In Jesus' name. Amen.





## Activity:

1. Write down a list of 10 things you want to obtain or do.
  - Go down the list and number the items as how important they are to you.
  - Decide whether your wanting can be called coveting.
  - Are there things you want so badly that they are distracting you from more important things?
  - Are there things your friends own which make you jealous of your friends?
  - Are you angry with your friends because they have many things that you want?
  - God wants you to trust Him and wait for the promises that He has made.
  
2. Arrange the following words to give a complete sentence.
  - i. more / to / wanting // have / “Be / guard / against / more / and / your / on / things
  
  - ii. has / a / person / not / of / made / up / is / Life / how / much

### *Solutions for last week's quizz.*

<b>A</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>B: solution</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>ix</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>iv</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>i</b>

