



groups | DISCUSSION GUIDE

Chasing Carrots... Money and Stuff

WARM UP

What gift is catching your eye for Christmas?

SET IT UP

We live in a culture that tells us a thousand times every day that material things can somehow give meaning and purpose to our lives. On top of that, it has never been easier to acquire and pile up possessions. Big box stores are around every corner, and Amazon will deliver right to your porch for free in two days or less. At the end of every day and when the credit card statements arrive in the mail, the feeling of satisfaction behind to wane. So how can we fill the void of materialism?

CHAT IT UP

- 1. What are some first world problems you've had recently?**
- 2. Do you think the instant accessibility to things has changed our relationship with materialism?**
- 3. In what way can a wealth of possessions make you poor in your heart?**
- 4. Read Matthew 6:19-20. Make some observations about how Christians should view material things?**
- 5. Reread verse 20. How can you accomplish this verse in your own life?**

Three myths about stuff were given:

- 1. Money will satisfy my heart**
 - 2. Money will solve my problems**
 - 3. Money will secure my future**
- 4. Which myth do you struggle with believing the most? Why?**
 - 5. The best way to break the grip of greed is to pursue contentment and practice gratitude. Which do you find helps you the best?**
 - 6. Take a quick inventory of your life. What do you have to be thankful for? How has God blessed you with where you are and what you have? Share with the group.**

7. How can you be more content and grateful this week? Give some practical solutions.

WRAP IT UP

When faced with the never-ending barrage of upgrades and new toys, we need to remember as followers of Jesus, our goal is not bound to this earth. Our true source of contentment is found in a relationship with the only one who can truly satisfy - God. Our identity is shaped by how God sees us, not by the accumulation of our possessions and net worth. Next time the carrot of materialism is dangled in front of you, remember to pursue contentment and practice gratitude for how God views you and what He has done for you!