

SOUNDINGS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Remember These In Your Prayers

Sandra Bird	Jaymie Murphy	Jaci Smith
The Carter family	Charles Nance	Annie Spieth
Lorrie Cook	Laurie Reagan	Roy Sutherland
Fluffy Hartz	Pollianna Russell	Lora Titus
Logan Kerr	The Sands	Debbie Walker

Away With The Military

*Zachary Brown, Chris Cantrell, Luis Oliveras,
Josh Robertson, Dakota Walters,*

Those Away Traveling or on Business this week

*The Bynums, The Mays, Megan Vaughn,
Corbin Berentsen, The Allens, The Gibsons,
The Adrians, The Trimbles*

Times We Meet This Week:

Worship

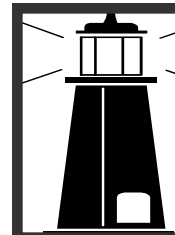
Sunday 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

*Please plan on assembling and
studying with us each service!*



THE BEACON
BREMERTON CHURCH OF CHRIST
500 PLEASANT DRIVE
377-5622

Elders

Randy Fisher
271-0810

Dan May
692-1654

Otto Spieth
373-8372

Paul Vlastelica
308-2416

Deacons

Ron Haws
253-851-1019

Mike McCown
697-9108

Henry Royster
865-8646

Sam Titus
698-0430

Tim Turner
271-2251

Evangelist

Dan May

Bremerton church of Christ Wi-Fi Access Code:

Godislove

Volume 19

Number 41

October 8, 2017

The Least Understood Sin

Jericho was the first city the Israelites came to when they crossed over into Canaan. God gave them a total victory and told them to go through the city and utterly destroy the people and the livestock. But the gold, silver, bronze, and iron things were to be put in the treasury of the Lord. This warning was given: “keep yourselves from the things under the ban, lest you covet them” (Joshua 6:18).

Covetousness has been called “the least confessed sin” (St. Francis de Sales). When did you ever hear someone admit to it? When was the last time you coveted? That may indicate that it is also the least *understood* sin.

Covetousness is not just desiring something what someone else has. It is desiring something that I have no right to possess. In the 10 commandments, Israel was commanded not to covet their neighbor’s house, wife, servant, ox, donkey, “or anything that belongs to your neighbor” (Exodus 20:17). Why? These things did not belong to them; they had no right to them. In Jericho, the reason the gold, silver, and iron things were banned was because they had been claimed by the Lord. The Israelites were to keep themselves from things they had no right to.

What makes covetousness so least-confessed and misunderstood?

Covetousness is a silent sin. “You shall not covet” (Exodus 20:17) was different than the other commandments. The other laws had to do with things that were outward and noticeable when you violated them: do not “commit,” “kill,” “steal,” and “bear.” But the tenth

IN NEED OF PRAYER:

- **Jaci Smith** . *The results of the biopsy* came in showing she has cancer. An email was sent to the church with a detailed explanation of what is happening and what is planned. Please read your email to find out what is going on with her. If you cannot receive email please ask one of the elders.
- **Mike Moore** (Nancy Olwell’s father) is rehabbing from surgery and is having some complications.
- There are several listed above who are in need of our continual prayer.

TRAVELERS:

- *Those deployed on the Nimitz*
- **The Bynums** will be returning today from their vacation in Hawaii.
- **The Mays and Megan Vaughn** are in Germany. They will return on the 16th.
- **Corbin Berentsen** travels to Phoenix, AZ tomorrow. He will return on the 23rd.
- **The Allens** will be out of town the 10th through the 15th.
- **The Gibsons** will be out of town Tuesday through the 15th.
- **The Adrians** will be in California Tuesday through the 27th.
- **The Trimbles** will be on a cruise the 14th through the 20th.

Special Teacher Workshop: All ladies are invited to a Bible class teacher’s workshop led by **Teri Fisher** on **October 14th** at the church building with lunch at the Fishers. Also, lots of material will be prepared to take home. She would like to know how many will attend, so please let Teri know, ASAP.

EVENTS: **The men’s prayer and Bible study** will be held on Friday evening the 13th. For further details please see Randy Fisher. **Kristin Olivares is hosting a moving party** on Saturday the 21st and needs help beginning at 8:30 AM to move the furniture. She will get U-Haul truck if needed. It is a relatively short distance between places. Misti Ivie has planned a **Children’s Fall Festival** on Saturday the 21st from 2 to 4 PM at her house. Please see Misti for all the details.

commandment was inward, having to do with the thoughts. In Jericho, Achan “took” some of the things under the ban because he first “saw” and then “coveted” them (Joshua 7:19-21).

All sin begins in the heart. What silently starts on the inside is ultimately expressed in actions. That’s why *covetous* and *covetousness* are also translated “unjust gain” (Proverbs 28:16), “dishonest gain” (Jeremiah 22:17) and “bribe” (Exodus 18:21). The desire for something you have no right to have leads to use dishonest means to obtain it. What is your heart’s desire? Do you have a right to it? If not, don’t even think about it.

Covetousness is a subtle sin. Jesus said, “Beware, and be on guard against every form of covetousness” (Luke 12:15). Watch for and then guard yourself. Why? Because it is such a subtle sin. “Every form” or “every kind” of covetousness tells us that this sin manifests itself in different ways.

This is not just about money. Pornography is another way of “coveting your neighbor’s wife” (Deuteronomy 5:21). You have no right to her. You can covet attention. What is our motive for posting things on social media? Is it so people will be impressed that we have reached a status in life where we can take this vacation, live in this house, or purchase these things? You can covet praise. In the worship service, do we serve for God’s glory or for our own? That is reserved for Him and Him alone.

Covetousness is a destructive sin. It was one of the “seven deadly sins” identified by Pope Gregory I in 590 A.D. But God called it a deadly sin long before any man did. In 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, it is listed alongside fornicators, idolaters, homosexuals, and drunkards as those who shall not “inherit the kingdom of God.” In Ephesians 5:5, “no immoral or impure person or covetous man...has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.” That which is silent and subtle in the end is destructive and deadly.

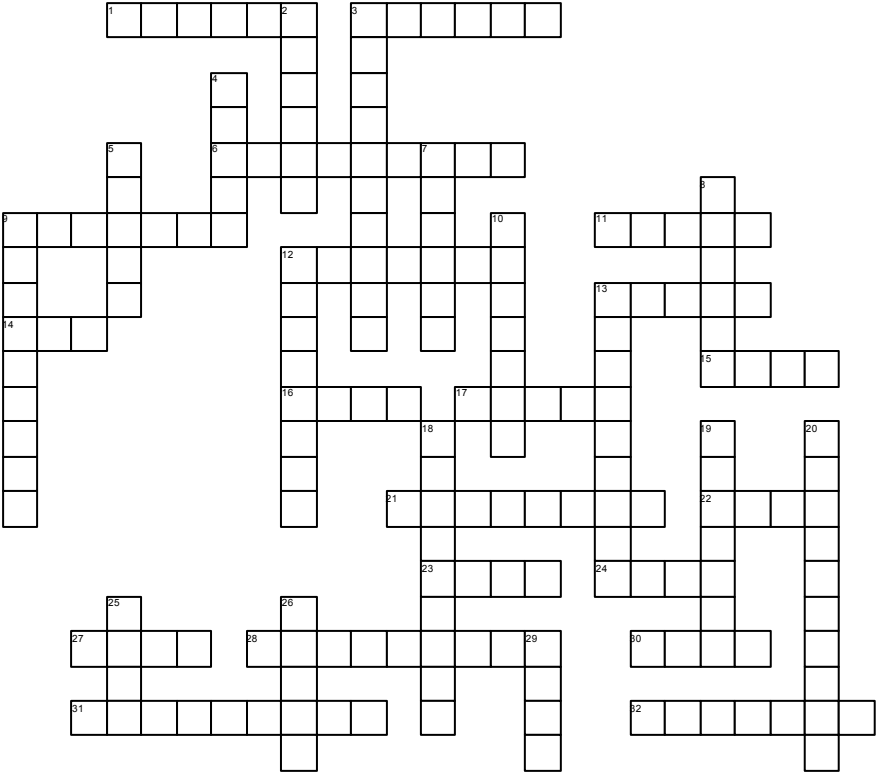
And yet, how often have people pursued this path? Achan saw and coveted and took. As a result, he and his family were stoned, burned, and then covered by a heap of stones (Joshua 7:24-26). Judas, one of the 12 apostles, gave up Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. And he was so overcome with grief that he hanged himself. Ananias and Sapphira were not required to sell their land. But they coveted the praise of the local church. And they were struck dead on the spot. When you don’t guard against every form of it, you destroy your life and lose your soul.

The cure for covetousness is contentment. “Let your lives be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you , nor will I ever forsake you’” (Hebrews 13:5). Is God’s companionship enough for you? Then make Him your heart’s desire.

Bubba Garner (edited DPM)

Hymns XXI

How well do you know our hymns? Answers are in songs 851-900.



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 1 Love, love, love, love, the ____ is a word of...
- 3 ____ yourselves in the sight of the Lord
- 6 His name is ____ Jesus my Lord
- 9 ____ a prayer in the morning...
- 11 I'm ____ today, oh yes I'm
- 12 ____ in the Lord always and again I say ...
- 13 It only takes a ____ to get a fire going
- 14 This is the ____ that the Lord hath made
- 15 In his ____, in his....
- 16 There is a ____ in

- Gilead, that make the wounded....
- 17 I've got ____ like a river....
- 21 Oh Lord, our Lord, how ____ is your name
- 22 Jesus, ____ above all Beautiful Savior...
- 23 Unto to ____ of Lord, do I lift up my soul
- 24 God is so ____
- 27 I will ____ upon the Lord, who is worthy to be...
- 28 I am ____ with Christ nevertheless I live
- 30 Thy word, is a ____ unto my feet and a light...
- 31 The ____ love of the

- Lord never ceases
- 32 ____ has broken, like the first

DOWN

- 2 Thank you Lord for ____ me and thank....
- 3 Sing ____ to the Lord...
- 4 I want to know Christ and the ____ of his rising
- 5 Praise the name of ____
- 7 We're part of the ____ that's been born again
- 8 There's a sweet, sweet ____ in this place
- 9 ____ Jesus is to me,

- Counselor, Prince of Peace...
- 10 I will sing of the ____ of the Lord forever
- 12 Blue skies and ____ and sunbeams...
- 13 Jesus....Jesus there is ____ about that name
- 18 Something ____ something good...
- 19 Seek ye first the ____ of God
- 20 He is my ____ he is my all
- 25 Teach me Lord, to ____ down on my knees...
- 26 Let us break ____ together on our knees
- 29 He paid a ____ he did not owe