

WE DEVELOP A HEART OF CHARITY BY:

1. **Using** _____ and **not** _____
Charity is putting money and the things in life in proper order.
2. **Wanting** _____

There are two ways to get enough. One is to continue to accumulate more and more. The other is to desire less.
G.K. Chesterton

Desire less that the typical American and you will experience more joy than the typical American.

3. **Giving** _____
Generosity is thinking of someone else and treating their needs as more important than our own.

4. **Living in the ' _____ ' not the ' _____ '**
In your life, what is it that defines you? Is it wealth and possessions? Is it power and prestige? If someone asks you who you are, what do you say?

God is love (agape).

1 John 4:8

Tug-of-War

Greed vs. charity

Yet true religion with contentment is great wealth. After all, we didn't bring anything with us when we came into the world, and we certainly cannot carry anything with us when we die. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is at the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NLT)



Friendswood
United Methodist Church

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Key: greed, more, things, people, traps, ourselves, secure, happy, handout, cleaning house, balance, things, people, less, generously, who, what

Greed

Which sin did Jesus talk about more than any other? _____.

Examples:

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth.

Matthew 6:9

It is hard for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 19:23

What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

Mark 8:36-37

You cannot serve God and money.

Luke 16:13

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Luke 12:15

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT GREED

Greed is always wanting _____.
Greed causes us to love _____ and use _____ rather than love _____ and use _____.

No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Matthew 6:24

Greed _____ us and leads us to other sins.

People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6:9-10

Greed, for lack of a better word, is good. Greed is right, greed works. Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the essence of the evolutionary spirit. Greed, in all of its forms; greed for life, for money, for love, knowledge has marked the upward surge of mankind.

Gordon Gekko in Wall Street

Make money and the whole nation will conspire to call you a gentleman.

George Bernard Shaw

Greed is difficult to see in _____

A fish doesn't feel wet because it's always been surrounded by water. Greed doesn't feel strange or different or unsettling because to us it feels normal. Greed is part of the natural environment in which we swim.

THE LIES THAT GREED TELLS US

Greed promises that if we have enough we will be _____

And he gave an illustration: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. In fact, his barns were full to overflowing. So he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store everything. And I'll sit back and say to myself, My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!' "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get it all?' "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

Luke 12:16-21

Greed promises us that the stuff of life will make us _____

Research has proven - Money can't buy happiness.

Charity

CHARITY IS NOT:

A _____ for those unwilling to work

A means of _____

A _____ against materialism

Charity - from the root *caritas*, which is the Latin translation of the Greek word *agape* or *self-sacrificing love*