

+ COVETING +



“Joseph’s Coat” Dr. He Qi. Order prints at [www.heqigallery.com](http://www.heqigallery.com)

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

– EXODUS 20:17

TEN COMMANDMENTS 9

*re*

LIVING FAITH SERIES



# SMALL GROUP

FAITH 5 TIME HANDOUT



# COVETING

TEN COMMANDMENTS

THEME

9

# THE FAITH 5

SHARE, READ, TALK, PRAY, BLESS



## “JOSEPH’S COAT”

by Dr. He Qi  
([www.heqigallery.com](http://www.heqigallery.com))

### THEME VERSE

YOU SHALL NOT  
COVET YOUR  
NEIGHBOR’S  
HOUSE; YOU SHALL  
NOT COVET YOUR  
NEIGHBOR’S WIFE,  
OR MALE OR FEMALE  
SLAVE, OR OX,  
OR DONKEY, OR  
ANYTHING THAT  
BELONGS TO YOUR  
NEIGHBOR.

— EXODUS 20:17

# FAITH 5™ TIME

Model this five-step process at church today, then bring it on home!



**SHARE** your highs and lows of the week one-on-one with another person. Listen carefully and record their thoughts in the space below. Then return to small group and share your friend’s highs and lows with the group.

### MY HIGH THIS WEEK

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### MY LOW THIS WEEK

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### MY FRIEND’S HIGH THIS WEEK

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### MY FRIEND’S LOW THIS WEEK

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**READ** and highlight the theme verse in your Bible.



**TALK** *about how today's verse relates to your highs and lows. Then choose from the options below and have some fun digging deeper into the theme together. Take turns leading this.*

### ✦ ART ATTACK & MINDZEYE GALLERY

*What do you see in today's theme art or your own drawings?  
How do the art and the theme verse relate to each other?  
How do they relate to your highs and lows?*

### ✦ ROLE PLAY

*Assign roles and take turns acting out the following:*

1. A friend says: "If I'm not number one in my sport I feel miserable and I'm out to get whoever is ahead of me. Is there anything wrong with that?"
2. Your friend appears to have everything: looks, good grades, money, a great family. You start to become aware that you are jealous. What do you do?

### ✦ QUESTIONS TO PONDER

*Share your thoughts on the questions below:*

1. What was the last thing you really wanted but couldn't possess?
2. When might wanting something badly be good?
3. How might coveting and cheating someone be related? How might coveting and gambling be connected?

### ✦ QUOTATIONS

*Choose a quotation on the right and share why you chose it.*

## QUOTATIONS TO CHEW ON

**THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE AREN'T THINGS.**

**ART BUCHWALD**

**TO BE CLEVER ENOUGH TO GET ALL THAT MONEY, ONE MUST BE STUPID ENOUGH TO WANT IT.**

**G.K. CHESTERTON**

**I HAVE HELD MANY THINGS IN MY HANDS AND HAVE LOST THEM ALL; BUT WHATEVER I HAVE PLACED IN GOD'S HANDS, THAT I STILL POSSESS.**

**MARTIN LUTHER**

**THIS CATALOG HAS A LOT OF TOYS I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW I WANTED!**

**DENNIS THE MENACE**



Play this online game using FINKlink

LF09 @ www.faithink.com



## CATECHISM CONNECTION

Go over Questions 63-68 (pg 89-92) in the Small Catechism and discuss.

*Use your catechism to help answer the following questions.*

1. What examples of coveting and its effects can you provide from our world?
2. What does God think of these evil thoughts and desires? What kinds of things do people—believers included—covet?
3. Why do people covet what belongs to others?
4. Why must all people, even Christians, carefully watch their hearts?
5. How does God want us to feel about the things He gives to us?
6. Reflect upon and answer, “How has God blessed me in the past? In what ways am I thankful for—and content with—His blessings?”
7. Explain the following words: “But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin; and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death” (James 1:14–15).
8. How do people sometimes seek to get their neighbor’s property craftily? How do people sometimes seek to get their neighbor’s property by a show of right?
9. Explain these words of Paul to Timothy: “Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment” (1 Timothy 6:6).



# CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

## Excerpt from the Large Catechism

Such is nature that we will begrudge another's having as much as we have. Everyone acquires all he can and lets others look out for themselves. Yet we all pretend to be upright. We know how to put up a fine front to conceal our rascality. We think up dodges and sly tricks (better and better ones are being devised daily) under the guise of justice. We brazenly dare to boast of it, and insist that it should be called not rascality but shrewdness and business acumen. In this we are abetted by jurists and lawyers who twist and stretch the law to suit their purpose, straining words and using them for pretexts, without regard for equality for our neighbor's plight (405:297-299).

These commandments...forbid anyone, even with a specious pretext, to covet or scheme to despoil his neighbor of what belongs to him, such as his wife, servants, house, fields, meadows, or cattle. But here it is also forbidden to entice anything away from your neighbor, even though in the eyes of the world you could do it honorably, without accusation or blame for fraudulent dealing (405:296).

## How Christians should be taught to confess from the 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment

My God has given me everything that I need and all that is good for me.

*Have I longed for the honor, wealth, happy life, or what seemed the ease of the lives of others?  
Has my life been full of craving for these things?*

*Do I keep wishing for and dreaming about things I don't have before I can work with a diligent and glad heart?*

## How Christians should be taught to confess from the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment

My God has given me Himself. He is my God. His will is good and gracious. In Him I am content.

*Have I wanted my neighbor's spouse, his workers, or his property to be mine?*

*Have I tried to win the affections and loyalties of my neighbor's spouse or children or friends away from my neighbor to me?*

*Have I urged friends and spouses and workers to go back to their calling, holding their marriages, friendships, families, and work together?*

*Have I fostered discontent with the congregation, its pastor, or leaders, and failed to urge members to stay and do their duty in the Divine Liturgy, praying, giving, and serving?*





**† TERMS** Write a group definition of these words:

**COVET** \_\_\_\_\_

**ENVY** \_\_\_\_\_

**JEALOUSY** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHEMING** \_\_\_\_\_

**TEMPT** \_\_\_\_\_



**PRAY** for one another. Gather in a circle and lock arms. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask God to be with you in your lows. Pray for your friend's highs and lows and for your world. Close in Jesus' name.

**A PRAISING PRAYER** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A THANKING PRAYER** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AN ASKING PRAYER** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**BLESS** one another by name. Trace the sign of the cross on a forehead or palm as you share these words or another favorite blessing:

**“MAY THE SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD BE ALL THAT YOU NEED THIS DAY. IN CHRIST’S NAME, AMEN.”**

**† REMEMBER 1 THING** *We are not to scheme to obtain our neighbors possessions, spouse or loyalties. Rather, we are to help people keep what belongs to them.*



# Coveting

Keep your family communicating every night and grow together in insight, love and your understanding of one another and God. Try this simple five-step process just before bed for maximum impact. New to the process? Focus on step 1 initially, and grow from there. Check out [www.faithink.com](http://www.faithink.com), FINKlink LFO9 for additional games, songs, and devotions on this theme.



**SHARE** your highs and lows of the day.



**READ** and highlight these verses—one a day—in your Bible.

**WEEK 1**

- Day 1 Exodus 20:17
- Day 2 Proverbs 16:28-29
- Day 3 Philippians 4:11-12a
- Day 4 Hebrews 13:5
- Day 5 I Timothy 6:10
- Day 6 Galatians 5:22b-23a
- Day 7 Review - Exodus 20:17

**WEEK 2**

- Day 1 Matthew 5:27-28
- Day 2 Amos 8:4, 7
- Day 3 Job 5:13
- Day 4 Exodus 23:4
- Day 5 Luke 9:25
- Day 6 Exodus 20:17b
- Day 7 Review - Exodus 20:17



**TALK** about your highs and lows in relation to the verse for the day. Ask “How does this verse relate to our highs and lows?” and “What might God be saying to us today?”



**PRAY** for one another. Praise and thank God for today’s highs. Ask for help with today’s lows. Include highs and lows of your family, friends and world in this prayer. Close in Jesus’ name.



**BLESS** one another using the following blessing, marking one another with the sign of the cross:

**“MAY THE SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD BE ALL THAT YOU NEED THIS DAY. IN CHRIST’S NAME, AMEN.”**

**FAMILY COVENANT:** *We have shared the FAITH 5™ together as a family this week.*

Parent’s Signature

Teen’s Signature

Date