

“What?” his servant exclaimed. “Feed a hundred people with only this?” But Elisha repeated, “Give it to the people so they can eat, for this is what the Lord says: Everyone will eat, and there will even be some left over!” And when they gave it to the people, there was plenty for all and some left over, just as the Lord had promised.

2 Kings 4:43-44

*Just as death and destruction are never satisfied, so human desire is never satisfied. **Proverbs 27:20 (NLT)***

But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, the man of God, said to himself, “My master should not have let this Aramean get away without accepting any of his gifts. As surely as the Lord lives, I will chase after him and get something from him.”

So Gehazi set off after Naaman. When Naaman saw Gehazi running after him, he climbed down from his chariot and went to meet him. “Is everything all right?” Naaman asked. “Yes,” Gehazi said, “but my master has sent me to tell you that two young prophets from the hill country of Ephraim have just arrived. He would like 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothing to give to them.”

“By all means, take twice as much silver,” Naaman insisted. He gave him two sets of clothing, tied up the money in two bags, and sent two of his servants to carry the gifts for Gehazi. But when they arrived at the citadel, Gehazi took the gifts from the servants and sent the men back. Then he went and hid the gifts inside the house. When he went in to his master, Elisha asked him, “Where have you been, Gehazi?” “I haven’t been anywhere,” he replied.

But Elisha asked him, “Don’t you realize that I was there in spirit when Naaman stepped down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to receive money and clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and cattle, and male and female servants?

Because you have done this, you and your descendants will suffer from Naaman’s leprosy forever.” When Gehazi left the room, he was covered with leprosy; his skin was white as snow.

2 Kings 5:20-27 (NLT)

*“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” **Luke 12:14 (NIV)***

“All kinds of greed”

- Stuff we _____
- Stuff we _____
- Stuff we _____

HOW TO GUARD AGAINST GREED

I. Learn _____

*I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. **Philippians 4:11 (NLT)***

II. Pursue _____

*Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed... Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken. **Ecclesiastes 4:9; 12 (NLT)***

III. Practice _____

*Generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity. **Isaiah 32:8 (NLT)***

Is this the time to receive money and clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and cattle, and male and female servants?