

October 20:

Series: Why Do You Buy That?

Message: #7: Wanting It All

Text: “Therefore, my loved ones, just as you always obey me, not just when I am present but now even more while I am away, work out [live] your own salvation with fear and trembling.” - Philippians 2:12

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2 (Message)

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:9 “So whether we are at home or away, our goal is to be pleasing to Him.”

Theme: Classic commercials is about wanting more, wanting what you dream of, and going after it and getting it. Unmask our real desires of selfishness and worldly perspective. I finally get to the series Scripture passage and unpack the temptation of the world, but how it doesn't give what we really need.

Blurb: Have you noticed how you've subtly become addicted to wanting more...better...that next thing? It's surprising just how sneakily that seeps into our lives! The way to counter the consumption of consumptionism is to live out your salvation every day. That means applying how you make Jesus your Lord not just when you become a Christian, but continually. This Sunday we're learning to kneel before our Lord each and every day.

Kids: “Why Did You Buy That?” Bidding Game with contestants, including kids -Andrew
Commercial Videos:

Bumper Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MlnZz9BD90E> (61 seconds)

NIKE | "Want It All" feat. LeBron James & Kevin Durant

Dante Grand as kid. He fails...but keeps going. Failure is not a person, but an event!

Sermon Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvUaNPFzxLQ> (30 seconds)

Budweiser Born A Donkey (2004)

Budweiser Clydesdales - donkey. “I must have said something right!”

Sermon Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24THBINbcng> (30 seconds)

Now look what you started! (2009)

Sermon Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zb3fhsfs6ZU> (30 seconds)

Budweiser 'Lamb Streaker'

Opening Song: *Hymn Sing*

Welcome: -Pastor David

Memory Verse:

“So whether we are at home or away, our goal is to be pleasing to Him.” -2 Corinthians 5:9

Worship Music Set: -Sanctify

This Is Amazing Grace

Threshold of Glory

Have It All

Worship Prayer - Andrew

Offering: *Treasure* -Sanctify

Prayers: -David

Greek word for repentance: *metanoia*. Repent/stop, surrender/make room, turn to Jesus, live.
Prayer team after worship in the front left of the sanctuary.

Apostles' Creed -David

Grow Moment: Grow Groups - David

Why Did You Buy That? -Andrew

Message: Why Do You Buy That? #7: Wanting It All

Bumper video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MInZz9BD90E> (61 seconds)

NIKE | "Want It All" feat. LeBron James & Kevin Durant

Dante Grand as kid. He fails...but keeps going. Failure is not a person, but an event!

PP#1: Why Do We Buy That? #7 Wanting It All

“Work [live] out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” Philippians 2:12b

Why Do We Buy That? Wanting It All. Philippians 2:12, Paul says, “Therefore, my loved ones, just as you always obey me, not just when I am present but now even more while I am away, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”

PP#2: *Nike swoosh with the phrase, “Just Do It!”*

Nike is the world’s largest sports apparel outfitter. I was at our high school this week when school let out. I saw Nike gear everywhere! How did I know when it was Nike? What symbol did I see? [The swoosh!] Right!

Well, Nike specializes in sports shoes. And that’s what this commercial was for. But the advertising strategy here is not to tell you to buy Nike shoes. It’s to sell a much bigger idea. It captures our inner longing and desire for more. And so, it pictures a young Dante Grand as a little kid, dreaming big. Of course, he’s wearing a Nike shirt. But he’s envisioning his future. In high school, while wearing Nike shoes, he’s playing on the court, getting better and better. All the while he’s watching his hero, LeBron James, the all-time king of basketball, and with whom Nike has guaranteed a minimum of one *billion* dollar *lifetime* endorsement deal. [But does he support China or Hong Kong? Anyway...] Grand then sees himself playing basketball in college, and then signing on to a professional team, the same team with King James! Kevin Durant on the opposing team makes an amazing basket, and Grand brings the ball up. He passes it to his teammate King James, who will certainly make a spectacular play. What does King James do? He bounces the basketball off the backboard right to Grand! Grand gets the ball and slam dunks it! It’s the biggest dream of them all - Grand for the slam dunk, and King James for his assist! The crowd goes wild!

This is what young Dante Grand is looking at as he stares at the hoop outside of his house in the projects. The tag line? “Want it all.”

PP#3: *Nike image of LaBron James with the tag line, “Want it all!”*

What a fantastic commercial! This isn't shoes. This is all of us, dreaming big dreams, and going after it. Nike simply offers products that can help you along your way to realize your dreams. Want it all! And when you do, you'll buy Nike products, just like King James and Dante Grand, as they realize their dreams. Want more...want big...never settle for less. And it works!

I'll never forget years ago, when Nathan was about that boy's age, and he was trying out basketball. So, of course, we went to his game, so we could watch Nathan and the other kids stumble over their feet, heave the ball in the general direction of the basket, and dribble the ball with two hands. Reese and I made it interesting by counting many fouls the refs *overlooked*, just to keep the game going! But I remember nudging Reese and pointing to the shoes on the feet of these boys, who had a hard time simply staying upright let alone playing basketball: all of them had brand new Reeboks, Adidas, and, of course, Nikes. The money in the shoes worn by these our precious little babies with bulging dreams, could have fed the homeless in our community for a month! Advertising works!

PP#4: Why Do We Buy That? Want It All!

Now, I hope that you're starting to get a little uncomfortable by now, because you're making connections to the ways that you do this, too. We all do, you know. We buy this. This is the core principle of advertising, and the tracks on which our consumer-based culture runs. Want it all.

But before I go any further with this, I need to stop and explain that dreaming big, wanting more, is not bad. It is a helpful focus for our lives. It keeps us moving forward. Big dreams and cool stuff can be good. Even though Jesus followers are not *of* the world, we do live *in* it. And God places us here in creation and tells us to enjoy our lives, have fun, and appreciate the good things of life. King Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 8:15, “So I commend enjoyment because there's nothing better for people to do under the sun but to eat, drink, and be glad. This is what will accompany them in their hard work, during the lifetime that God gives under the sun.”

The issue, then, becomes our relationship with wanting it all. Jesus frames this tension that we, His followers, have with worldly success and pleasures and material stuff, not in terms of abstinence—must be avoided, shouldn't enjoy it, feel guilty if you buy Nikes—but rather in terms of prioritization. It's a matter of right ordering our lives! We must be careful to not let our big dreams become so big that they become the dominant allegiance of our lives. This is where it gets messy for Christians. Big dreams are good, but they must be in alignment with the higher priority of God's plan for our lives. But it's real because it's played out—lived out—with every purchase we make, the way we spend every hour.

PP#5: *Image of Jesus teaching, along with Matthew 6:33 “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

This is the key to the Christian life: the right order of things. This is Jesus' point. Seek first the Kingdom of God, and all other things will become rightly ordered in your life, too.

We often talk about following Jesus as a radical way of life. But unfortunately, it's not usually that easy, or simple. Now, don't get me wrong, choosing Jesus is a radical ripping out of yourself at the center of your life and putting Jesus there instead. And for some Christians, this means the radical call of martyrdom; or to give up family, career, worldly success; or to sell

everything you own, giving it all away, and living out in the wild. But for most of us, following Jesus means living most days quite normally. We have families, homes, jobs, wealth, and hobbies. And the struggle we have, then, is not giving up everything, but learning to live with it rightly. And this can be far harder!

I've joked that my addiction to food is unfair, because I can't cleanly abstain from it! I have to keep it in its right place in my life, day after day, controlling it as fuel that I also really enjoy.

PP#6: *Image of a person standing in a mall with all kinds of wonderful stores to choose from.*

A visual might be imagining we live in the center of a big shopping mall named "Dream Big." We have everything available all around us. And most of us have reasonable access to whatever we might choose. Every day, we wake up, and there's the fashion design store over there, and the candy store over there, and the Nike shoe store over there (with \$200 basketball shoes for ten-year-olds), and a car showroom over there, the vacation possibilities over there, and the boat over there, and the bigger house over there, and the better job over there, and the hunting cabin over there, and the more exciting relationship over there, and the make your little girl a princess store over there, and so on, all around us each and every day.

And each of these stores have incredibly creative marketing strategies telling us why we need to come give them just a little bit more, because we are lacking, and that will make us happy, and we deserve it, and we should want it all!

PP#7: Nike: Dream big!

Jesus: Dream even bigger!

The Jesus-way, however, puts limits on what all that stuff demands on us. It is a calling to dream even bigger than what our personal dreams may be. It is to dream big enough to dare to dream God's dream for us! And that means constantly keeping our wants and desires for more in check.

It's a calling to flip our two top priorities. Let me be a bit honest. Most Jesus followers put Jesus up there in the top priorities of our lives. But we wrestle to keep Him as our very top priority. And usually, when we find ourselves struggling, it's because Jesus has been demoted from His top spot. It happens almost without notice. We find ourselves trying to add more Jesus to our lives, rather than trying to add more of our lives to Jesus. This issue is not that stuff is bad, but that we want it bad! Day by day our wants swell, fueled innocently by good-sounding commercials like this, and we give them just a tiny bit more, and then a bit more, until they become out of balance in our lives. Remember what the Bible says? "The love of money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy 6:10). Not money itself, but the unbalanced wanting of it! What's your money?

I want to show you a couple of Budweiser commercials. Yes, it's about beer. Now, I don't drink beer, and my wife is anti-alcohol due to having a bar tender for a mother. But alcohol, like money, is about keeping it in balance. Well, Budweiser is famous for its magnificent Clydesdales. They've made tons of commercials with them, most recently paring horses with cute little puppies. But 15 years ago, they aired a commercial about a donkey who had a very big dream. Take a look.

Sermon Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvUaNPFzxLQ> (30 seconds)

Budweiser Born A Donkey (2004)

Budweiser Clydesdales - donkey. "I must have said something right!"

See it? There it is again! Dream big. Want it all. Go for it...work for it. And the donkey gets to lead the team! Of course, as with commercials, they made a sequel.

Sermon Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24THB1Nbcng> (30 seconds)
Now look what you started! (2009)

We all identify. We all want to pursue our dreams!

Now, I'm sorry, but I have to show you one more commercial. It has absolutely nothing to do with this message, but it's just too awesome to pass by. For a Super Bowl commercial a couple of years ago, Budweiser had two sets of Clydesdales getting ready to play some intense football. And then something happens. Take a look.

Sermon Commercial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zb3fhfs6ZU> (30 seconds)
Budweiser 'Lamb Streaker'

I'm so sorry. But that has made me laugh for years. I guess that sheep had dream for 10 seconds of fame. Well, I figured this message needed a little lightening up. So, after a chuckle, we're ready to go in deep again.

PP#8: Romans 12:2 (CEB)

Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is—what is good and pleasing and mature.”

Now, wanting more has been an undercurrent in this whole fall message series. I've alluded to it in every message so far. But today I want to call it out directly, because this is a huge part of our daily lives, and discipleship.

Let's go back to our series verse, from Romans 12. The first two verses really help us stay on track. Today I'm going to read from the paraphrase called *The Message*. A *translation* is someone reading the original languages and putting it into English for us. It's a matter of balancing the translation of the words with trying to express the meaning. A paraphrase, however, is someone taking an English translation and putting it in their own way of talking. *The Message* is this. So, although it might not be as accurate as a translation, it can really make the meaning fresh as we hear it in the way we think and talk today.

PP#9: Romans 12:1-2 (*The Message*)

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

So, let's look at Romans 12:1-2 from *The Message* paraphrase. “So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and

walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”

Doesn't this really make sense? And you can hear Paul's guidance for Jesus-followers struggling to keep their worldly dreams in the right balance. It's about how we live our everyday lives, all of our usual tasks that we go around doing. Every part of our lives is an offering to God, who is our top priority. Be aware of how adjusted you are becoming to the values and teachings of our culture. Remember, always filter them through the standard of God's way. Make God's plan for you your biggest dream. After all, His dream is the best for you, and the best out of you.

PP#10: Romans 12:1-2 (*The Message*)

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. **Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him.** Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

The second sentence captured my attention in this passage. “Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him.” I think here might be the key for us, and to live in this world faithfully as Christians, how we can keep from becoming too well-adjusted to the values of our culture. I think here, what Paul is meaning, is for us to live out our salvation daily.

You see, we can keep our salvation as a one-time decision. We choose Jesus, and we commit to live our lives for Him, and with Him. This is why we have joy, the peace that passes understanding, life abundant and eternal. Jesus is awesome! And at some point, we have to make the decision to ask Jesus into our lives. We surrender our failed and hopeless lives to Him, and we open our hearts to have Him reign in us. So, church, if you haven't asked Jesus into your life, you need to. It means switching up your top priority. Stop trying to add some Jesus to your lives. Choose to make Jesus your savior, invite Him into your heart. And then, our goal, is to add more of our lives to Jesus!

But salvation is not something we do just once. Yes, you may have a day and time of when you became a Jesus follower. But that is not the day of your salvation. The day of salvation is always today. Today is the day you embrace what God has done for you in Jesus. It's not checking a box: “Yep, got saved.” It's not something in the past. It's something right now. You *are* saved! And that changes how we live every day. Today we embrace what God does for us.

So, we need to re-think our salvation. Embracing what God does for us means living that salvation every day.

PP#11: Want It All! Living Your Daily Salvation:

<u>Salvation:</u>	<u>Yesterday (Justification)</u>
1. Repent	Confess your sin
2. Surrender	Give up your selfishness
3. Turn	Make Jesus your Savior
4. Live	Make Jesus your Lord

Let me take you through this. I've listed the four movements of giving your hearts to Jesus and trusting in Him fully. It means 1. Repenting of your sin: earnestly desiring to stop, confessing it and asking Jesus for forgiveness. Then, 2. Surrendering your life. Take yourself out of the center of your life. Stop living for yourself. 3. Turn and make Jesus your number 1. Put Him at the center of your life. Trust in His salvation for you. And 4. Choose to live for Him each day. Live His way, not yours. This is what Lord means. Put Jesus in charge, and agree to live His way, even when you don't necessarily want to. Put your wants second, and Jesus first.

So, this is the part of salvation the Bible calls justification - being restored to God, getting back on track with God. If you haven't done this, or you have but have strayed, today is a great day to do this. In fact, after worship, members of the prayer team will be up front here in the sanctuary and will pray with you to do this.

But salvation doesn't stop there. Remember Philippians 2:12? Jesus-followers "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling." This means live it every day, not just that first day. And so this prayer process that we do when we choose to follow Jesus the first time is also the same process we pray every day.

PP#12: Want It All! Living Your Daily Salvation:

<u>Salvation:</u>	<u>Yesterday (Justification)</u>	<u>Today (Sanctification)</u>
1. Repent	Confess your sin	Admit your wanting in insatiable
2. Surrender	Give up your selfishness	Bind your allegiance to more
3. Turn	Make Jesus your Savior	Commit to God's good way
4. Live	Make Jesus your Lord	Choose today what brings life

So, let's go back to this process of salvation. I want you to see how this can be your daily prayer.

1. Repent. We live each day submerged in the consumer culture. And so, we need to actively admit each day that we have an insatiable desire for more. We want it all, all the time. It may help us to be motivated, but on its own, it is our slave master. Admit it desires all of us. 2. Surrender. Each day we need to bind our allegiance to more. We actively push it back, telling it "no," that it will not be the way we live. Instead, we 3. Turn and commit to living God's way. It's an active decision each and every day, each and every purchase, each and every word we speak. It is 3. Choosing God's good way, trusting that God has a better way for us, one that does not use us and abuse us but unleashes fullness of life in us. It is saying to that stuff: "you don't bring happiness; I will be content with or without you!" It is saying to that big dream: "you will be second! I put you under my allegiance to God, because I trust God more than the happiness you promise. I will follow a bigger dream than you!"

PP#13: Want It All! Living Your Daily Salvation

Repent. Surrender. Turn. Live.

As a disciple, this pattern of prayer becomes our daily pattern. And when we do, It redeems our lives. You see, Jesus is not just a Savior who died for us long ago. He did, of course, hallelujah! But we have Jesus today, too! Today He is our salvation. Today, we live for Him and make Him number one! This prayer of salvation keeps Jesus on top, and the rest of our priorities in the right order. It makes us able to rightly balance all the stuff we want so badly.

Yes, church, dream big. Want it all. But be sure that you don't settle for the mere dreams that this world has to offer. Dream even bigger! Dream of God's plan for your life, a life not based on getting more, having more, being impressive, being more important. Don't let your dreams be that small. Want it all! Want all that God has planned for you: life truly abundant, and that lasts into eternity! It's bigger than what you can dream. Don't settle for anything less.

PP#14: *Nike swoosh with the words in front of, or inside of it: Repent. Surrender. Turn. Live.*

Make this your daily prayer: Repent. Surrender. Turn. Live. Make this the daily cadence of your life. Repent. Surrender. Turn. Live. With it comes a life better than you can dream. Repent. Surrender. Turn. Live. Then you will have Jesus today, and be able to "work out your salvation with fear and trembling."

"Just do it!"

Amen.

Closing Song: *Rejoice -Sanctify*

Memory Verse:

"So whether we are at home or away, our goal is to be pleasing to Him." -2 Corinthians 5:9

Announcements: -Pastor David

Lifeline

Wednesday meal & groups

Fall Craft Sale - Saturday!

Benediction: -Pastor David