

CONTENT OVERVIEW

We can all admit it: There is something intensely addicting about Amazon. Perhaps it is the array of easily accessible items, ranging from sporting goods to groceries, beauty products to electronics, clothing to furniture. Maybe it is the ability to get almost anything delivered to us with just a few short clicks or the beauty of a package waiting for us on our doorstep. It is an exciting moment when we open the packaging, revealing the contents inside. As we take a few short moments to revel in the beauty of what we ordered, we quickly find ourselves returning to Amazon, ordering something else. While this is not a marketing plug for Amazon, it is an example of our innate need for “something.”

We, as human beings, have desires — deep-seated longings that we sometimes cannot fully satisfy on our own, even if we think we can. We have a desire to be happy, to be loved and taken care of. We desire acceptance, approval, and affirmation. We desire to be known and loved. While these desires are not necessarily bad, how we choose to fulfill them is what makes the difference. We think we can find happiness in the material items we order from Amazon, but we are only left feeling empty once the short-lived, immediate gratification they provide fades. We think a certain number of “likes” on a social media post will make us feel accepted and worthy but find that the feeling quickly disappears. We think we can find fulfillment through an overindulgence in alcohol, food, or Netflix, or by getting the latest version of an iPhone, TV, or car. This pursuit of material items will not fulfill us; they ultimately leave us with a certain emptiness.

As you know, Confirmation is a journey. It is a journey toward true happiness, fulfilling our desires in a lasting way. Confirmation is a journey where teens learn how to chase what is eternal, not what is fleeting. There is a deeper meaning to our desires. As your teen takes their first step on this journey, they will come to realize not only that they have desires but that their true desire — the one will completely fulfill their deepest longing and need — is a desire for God.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. Is there something you really want right now? Why do you want it? What do you think will happen if you get it?
2. Can you apply the “five whys” process to this desire? What is the root of this desire?
3. Read Acts 17:27 and pray together, as a family, that God will help you find Him in all that you seek.