

The Good Fight Fight for Wisdom with Money

We're all guilty of believing at some point or another that if we just had more of something, we'd be happier. That mindset couldn't be further from the truth though. We all know it, but we continue to fall into the trap. The truth of matter? True wealth and contentment only comes from knowing and loving God.

Scripture:

Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

1 Timothy 6:6-8

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 the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:9-10

No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money. Matthew 6:26 But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses.

1 Timothy 6:11-12

Intro Question:

1. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, song, etc.)

Discussion Questions

- 2. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8 quietly by yourself. Take a few moments to quietly meditate on it and share what resonates with you with the group.
- 3. Read 1 Timothy 6:9-10 aloud as a group. What should we learn from this warning? How does this challenge you?
- 4. Read Matthew 6:24 together as group. How have you seen the temptation to serve money as a master in your life? Why does Jesus warn his followers so many times about money?
- 5. End by reading 1 Timothy 6:11-21 together as a group. (This is a long passage, but it's helpful to read longer sections of scripture sometimes. Consider having several people read a few verses.) What do you notice? What do you sense God saying to you through His Word? Give several people a chance to share what stood out to them.
- 6. As a group, open up the Make It Awesome page wschurch.org/awesome and look at the resource for <u>Ways to Practice Gratitude</u>. Look over it and talk about what it might look like to practice gratitude regularly. If you're willing to try the first exercise as a group, that would be a great way to pray and close your time together!
 - Set a timer and list as many things as possible that you're grateful for before time runs out. Whether you write them down or say them out loud, imagine filling up the whole space with gratitude. When the timer ends, pray a simple prayer thanking God for it all!

Additional Resources:

- Want to learn more about the book of 1 Timothy? Watch this video from the Bible Project that gives an illustrated overview: <u>1 Timothy</u>.
- Everywhere Westsiders go this fall, we want to be known as people who Make It Awesome. We will choose joy, show up for worship weekly, build life-changing friendships, and live selflessly. For resources, visit <u>www.wschurch.org/awesome</u>.

Notes: