

Wealth in Luke's Gospel: Bible Study 3

For starters

- What's something you've been given that is valuable to you. How do you treat it?

Read: Ecclesiastes 5:19, 1 Timothy 6:17, Deuteronomy 8:17-18

1. According to these verses, where does wealth come from?
2. Why might it surprise people to hear that wealth can be good?
3. How should our attitude be shaped by the idea that wealth is a *gift*, not something we ultimately earn?
4. How do you currently view money — with guilt, pride, thankfulness, or something else?

Read: Luke 12:15, Luke 8:14, 1 Timothy 6:9-10

1. What dangers does Jesus highlight when it comes to wealth?
2. What does “the deceitfulness of wealth” mean (Mark 4:19)? Can you think of ways you've seen or felt this in your own life?
3. Why do you think greed is called “idolatry” in Colossians 3:5 (and Eph 5:5)?
4. Have you noticed wealth making you spiritually sleepy or self-sufficient to the point where you don't recognise dependence upon God? What should we do?

Read: Luke 12:29-31, 1 Timothy 6:6-11, Phil 4:10-13, Hebrews 13:5

1. What does it mean to “seek first God's kingdom” instead of material wealth?
2. What practical difference would contentment in this area make in your life right now?
3. Paul says contentment is something he *learned* (Phil 4:11). What has helped you learn contentment so far?

4. What can help you foster it going forward? Is there a particular area of discontent you need to bring before the Lord?
5. What speaks to you most in the following exhortation from 1 Timothy?
 - *1 Tim 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

Pray together

- Ask God to help you view wealth rightly.
- Confess any areas where you've loved money more than Him.
- Thank Him for His provision.
- Ask for help to grow in contentment and generosity.