

### "... Money: Master or Servant?"

(Matthew 6:19-24, 25:14-30; 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19 ...)

#### I. Introduction:

- A. Review of the Series: I Have Been Thinking about...
- B. Reflect on today's topic: Money
  - 1. The Statements
  - 2. The Scriptures

#### II. Exposition: I Have Been Thinking about ... Money

- A. The **commands** (Matthew 6:19-24)
  - 1. Temporal or eternal (vv. 19-21)
  - 2. Light or darkness (vv. 22-23)
  - 3. God or money (v. 24)
- B. The **contrasts** (Matthew 25:14-30)
  - 1. Good or wicked
  - 2. Faithful or unfaithful
  - 3. Owner or steward
    - Owners have **rights**
    - Stewards have **responsibilities**
    - "Biblical stewardship is the use of God-given gifts and resources (time, talent, treasure, truth, relationships) for the accomplishment of God-given goals." **Ron Blue**
- C. The **calculation** (1 Timothy 6:17-19)
  - 1. Live within your net-income (1 Tim. 5:8)
    - Giving (Prov. 3:9; 1 Cor. 16:2)
    - Taxes (Rom. 13:7; Matt. 22:21)
    - Budget (Prov. 15:22; Luke 14:28-32)
  - 2. Wise use of debt (Ps. 37:21; Rom. 13:8)

- 3. Savings (Prov. 6:6-8)
  - Emergency Fund
  - Long-term plans

#### III. Conclusion:

- A. The **conviction** (1 Timothy 6:6-10):
  - 1. Money is NOT
    - A measure of self-worth (Prov. 22:2; Deut. 8:18)
    - A reward for godly living (Hebrews 11)
    - A guarantee of contentment (Phil. 4:11-13)
    - A definition of who we are (Jer. 9:23-24)
  - 2. Money CANNOT BUY
    - Happiness or true pleasure
    - Peace of heart or mind
    - Entrance into the kingdom of God
- B. The **challenge**
  - 1. Reprioritize our use of money based on the Bible
  - 2. Record our use of money in a monthly budget
  - 3. Remember that we will give account to God

#### Questions to reflect on individually and discuss in Small Groups:

- 1. What stuck out to you from the message? (What's your keeper?)
- 2. What are some inherent dangers of money? How do you fight them?
- 3. The love of money can lead to pride or vanity. How have you seen this temptation play out in your life and in that of others?
- 4. Think of your role as a steward of God's possessions. Does this affect your perspective in the use of money in this life? If so, how?
- 5. Living on a budget important. Why is this so hard for so many?
- 6. What stuck out to you from the conclusion?
- 7. Finish this sentence with the primary thing that God is leading you to do: "In light of these passages and this discussion, I will ..." (What is your action point?)