

## *The Bible Doesn't Say That Money is the root of all evil.*

### Key Scriptures

*Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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.*

<sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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 6:6-12 NLT

*Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness! <sup>11</sup>The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what good is wealth—except perhaps to watch it slip through your fingers! Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 NLT*

*"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 6:24 NLT*

*Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Proverbs 3:9 NLT*

## TALK IT OVER

### **Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.**

- What is the best and worst financial advice you have ever heard?
- Why do some people think that God and the Bible are so anti-money?

### **Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.**

- Read 1 Tim 6:6-8. What comes to mind when you read Paul's description of what is needed for us to be content? What do you need to be content?
- Why does money have so much power? Why does the love of money cause so many issues?

### **Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.**

- Jesus said in Matthew 6:24 that we can't serve both God and money because it is impossible to serve two masters. Talk about how you have struggled to live by this principle and/or what happened to help you embrace it
- How do we honor God with our wealth today? (Proverbs 3:9) Is it by tithing or is there something else/more? Share how you made the decision to honor God with your wealth and what happened as a result.
- Have you ever been content chasing money or possessions? Why will you never be content or have enough if that is where your heart is?

### **Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.**

*Father, thank You for loving us enough to warn us of the traps that loving money can cause. Help us learn to be content in whatever circumstances we live in because you are enough. In Jesus' name, amen.*

### **Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.**

- Start a gratitude journal. Write down things you are thankful for so that when you start to feel discontent, you can remind yourself of all the reasons you have to be content.
- Take the next step in honoring God with your wealth. If you need help figuring out what that is, talk to a Pastor or one of your Life Group for help.
- Get on a budget! It's easier to give and save when your finances are in order. If you need help getting started, email Pastor Lane for additional resources and read Dave Ramsey's book "The Total Money Makeover"