



onechurch

bigIdea



Do you have money or does money have you? Bills are piling up and the kids need food. Maybe you've heard that God provides, but you're not sure how that practically plays out. How we give, spend and save money reveals the things that are most important to us, the things we truly treasure. Let's look at what the Bible says about money and find out what your wallet says about you.

BIG IDEA: We live a purpose-filled life when we give generously.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the worst decision you have ever made with money? How did each decision impact your life?
2. *Read the following verses: Proverbs 21:20, Proverbs 13:4, and Proverbs 21:5.* How do the verses above relate to the following stupid human tricks?
 - Dropping health insurance – because it is too expensive
 - Obtaining a new credit card – because the others are already max'd out
 - Operating without a financial plan
 - Failing to return the tithe to the Lord
 - Financing a new car that is equal to a year of pay
 - Obtaining huge student loan debt and failing to finish
 - Quitting a job without another job lined up
 - Failing to save money
 - Obtaining a 2nd job “to help out the bills” – and immediately adjusting spending to a point that the 2nd job is now necessary in order to “make it”
 - Investing money into a business without a plan
 - Investing all money into a single investment – putting all of the eggs into one basket
3. Have you ever made a financial mistake due to one of the following reasons? Explain. What happened as a result?
 - Desperate
 - Not seeking the Lord
 - Hopeless
 - Pursuing a passion
 - Exhausted
 - No goal
 - Pride
 - Trying to impress
4. *Read Proverbs 3:9-10.* One person says, “I give to the Lord because it keeps me from becoming greedy. It causes me to recognize that God is the supplier of everything I have”. How does his statement relate to Luke 16:13?
5. How does giving regularly and consistently to the Lord through the local church keep us from being greedy and having misplaced affections?
6. Questions for reflection, not to answer or for discussion.
 - Are you intentionally bringing the tithe back to Him?
 - When was the last time you gave a sacrificial gift?
7. *Read Proverbs 16:3.* Do you pray before you make financial decisions? How do you commit your financial plans to the Lord? Do you seek God's will as you manage the resources He has provided?
8. *Read Proverbs 15:22.* Do you have a financial plan? Who can hold you accountable? The Holy Spirit? Your spouse? Your parents? People who are where you want to be? God's Word?
9. *Read Matthew 6:24.* How does your current financial situation affect your relationship with God?
10. *Read Proverbs 22:7.* Do you feel enslaved to any lenders? If so, what freedoms have you lost because of your financial obligations?
11. *Read Ecclesiastes 11:4-6.* If you try to wait for the perfect conditions to start giving to God or start saving, how long will you be waiting? Is there ever a perfect time to start obeying?

MOVING FORWARD

Money is competing for your love and affection. Give in a way this week that represents your devotion to God. Determine what percentage of your income you need to be giving consistently. If you are able, surprise someone with a gift this week who is in need. It could be a panhandler, a stranger, a neighbor, a co-worker, or family member.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones; whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones. If, then, you have not been faithful in handling worldly wealth, how can you be trusted with true wealth? Luke 16:10-11