

# C<sup>1</sup> onechurch

## bigIdea

The topic of money is discussed throughout the entire Bible. The reason so much attention is placed on finances is found in Ecclesiastes 5:10. In that verse we read, “Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.” Truly, the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. It is impossible to love money and live a life of generosity.



**BIG IDEA:** Money is the number one competitor of your heart.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the one thing you would describe as your most valuable possession? Why is it so valuable to you?
2. Why do most people want more money than they already have?
3. *Read Luke 12:34.* What are some of the “treasures” or possessions in your life currently distracting you from focusing on God? What specific things can you do to remove these distractions?
4. *Read Luke 16:13.* Christian atheists tend to trust money to provide happiness and/or security. Has there been a time in your life where you trusted money to provide these things? If so, how has it affected your relationship with God?
5. Has there been a time in your life when you decided to put your trust in God rather than in money. If so, what did that experience teach you about God?
6. *Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19.* When you grow in your relationship with Christ, it often results in becoming unexplainably content with what we have. Are you more content today than you were last year? How has your relationship with Christ in the last year affected your level of contentment?
7. *Read 2 Corinthians 8:2-3.* Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive. Describe a time you gave sacrificially and the affect it had on you. Is there any way you could give even more sacrificially? If so, what would it be? In what ways have you been blessed through your sacrificial giving?
8. Giving is intended to be a sacrifice. How do you define sacrifice?
9. What does your bank account say about your worship? What does your giving say about your relationship with God? What does your giving say about what you believe about the Bible?
10. What are excuses that we use to justify not tithing?

### GOING DEEPER

*Read Ecclesiastes 5:1-20.* This passage explores the futility of wealth and how it does not lead to true happiness.

- How should a person go into the house of God? (5:1)
- How did Solomon encourage us to conduct ourselves in the house of God? (5:2-3)
- What did Solomon say about vows made to God? (5:4-6)
- Why should we stand in awe of God? (5:7)
- What should not surprise us? (5:8-9)
- What grievous evil did Solomon notice? (5:13-17)
- What is good and proper for a person to do? (5:18)
- What sort of experience did Solomon describe as a gift from God? (5:19)
- What does this verse say happens to the person who has wealth and possessions? (5:20)

### WHAT WILL YOU DO?

What is one thing you can change today in your life that will help shift your focus away from money and possessions and back towards God? What can you do this week to accept and better appreciate the things God has given to you?

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Luke 12:34