

# If Money Talked

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## EARNING MONEY

### Lesson Points:

Colossians 3:23-24: *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

1. Some people are “pillow people” and neglect the challenge of earning money.
2. God’s provision for us to earn money and have our needs met requires that we work at it.

Proverbs 26:14: *As a door turns on its hinges, so a slothful or lazy person turns on his bed.*

Howard Thurman: *we must saddle our dreams before we can ride them.*

1 Timothy 5:8: *If anyone does not provide for his family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*

Ecclesiastes 4:5: *A fool folds his hands and ruins himself.*

Psalms 8: *Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

3. God created work.
  - a. Many misunderstand why God created work.
  - b. Growth comes through work
  - c. Our work is our witness.

2 Thessalonians 3:10: *If a person is unwilling to work, he should not eat.*

4. God’s provision for us to earn money and have our needs met requires that we work at it... *as for the Lord.*
5. Opposite the “pillow people” are the “earning addicts”.
  - a. Earning lots of money can sometimes enable a person to feel like a little god.
  - b. Earning money is the shortest path to power.
  - c. Earning money results in another intoxicating reward: acclaim or esteem. Acclaim is a narcotic.

*“What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?”*

**Remember, you matter to God.**

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## Group Discussion:

1. What's your tendency when it comes to earning money?
  - If I do, I do. No pressure, no strong urge.
  - I am an earner. I try to use my gifts and talents to earn as much as possible.
  - It's all about the money for me, if there's a way to earn it, I go after it no matter what.
2. In the lesson, Pastor Watson characterized people who are unwilling to work as “pillow people.” Have you ever known anyone who was able to work but unwilling? To what extent do your thoughts about them concur with scripture?
3. In addition, Pastor Watson said that God has given us all talents to use in earning money and that we should use them, or we may lose them. What do you think about that idea?
4. Who have you seen be a good example of earning money? (You may or may not know them personally.) Talk about why. Can you think of anyone who has been a bad example. Talk about why.
5. Are you or have you known anyone that you would consider an “earning addict?” What was the impact of that type of attitude in their lives? In the lives of their loved ones?
6. Do you agree that there is a relationship between earning money, power, and acclaim? How can that relationship be positive? How can it be negative? Where is the balance in your opinion?
7. What does it mean for you to “work as for the Lord?” Do you see your work as something that glorifies God? How?

## My Give, Save, Live Commitment

