November 12th – Faithfulness Better Than Riches

"A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished." (Prov. 28:20)

If you were to ask people about their life's goal, you would get a variety of answers. Many people pursue an education in hopes of securing a degree and a job. But what's so important about landing a nice job? Whether we'll admit it or not, a job is simply a means to an end for most people. A nice job is the path to lots of money. Isn't that what the "American dream" is built around? Marry a spouse, have kids, find a nice job, make lots of money, and retire happy.

Sadly, the pursuit of the American dream doesn't end up quite like many had hoped. Longing to get ahead of the competition, people are tempted to lie and steal. Relationships that once meant a great deal to us aren't quite as important when the opportunity for a promotion and more money is at stake. The sad truth is that many people have climbed their way to the top of the ladder only to find out that their money brings them no comfort when their life is falling apart.

In today's verse, Solomon reminds us that there is something much more important than money – faithfulness. But here's the catch – if you live a life of faithfulness to God, you may not always get that promotion. Your salary might not be as much as your neighbor's. Faithfulness to God does not always produce temporary benefits, but it ALWAYS guarantees an eternal reward. So remember this – your earthly riches will all pass away, but your faithfulness to God never last forever.