

1Timothy 6:6-19

Main Idea: Our hearts are tied to possessions and God wants our heart.

Background

Apparently, there were wealthy believers in Timothy's church at Ephesus. The city was extraordinarily prosperous. The text makes it clear that the excess of money was not the issue. Instead, Paul focused on the believer's mindset regarding money.

3 Principles of Good Stewardship "...take hold of the life that is really life." v.19.

If we are going to manage wealth and resources in a manner that pleases God, we need to adopt His mindset about money.

Decide to Hope in God v.17. "...do not hope in wealth...hope in God..."

There is absolutely nothing wrong with wealth. Some of the most godly men and women in Scripture were also incredibly rich. We cross the line however, when we begin to trust the wealth over the God who provided it (see Proverbs 22:2 and Proverbs 23:4).

Dedicate Yourself to Good Deeds v.18. "...do good...be rich in good deeds."

Q: Which is greater: Your desire for the accumulation of wealth, or your desire to go after God? Good Deeds – (see Proverbs 22:1 and 1Timothy 5:24-25)

BIG Statement: We begin to understand basic stewardship when we dedicate ourselves to good deeds and not the accumulation of more wealth.

Display the Attitude of Generosity v.18. "...be generous and willing to share."

In our contemporary vernacular, "Don't be so fearful of losing it that you cannot give it away."

Ben Franklin and You

If I were to read from your personnel file at work, what would it tell us about your work ethic? If I were to read from your personal journal at home, what would it tell us about your personal life? If I were to read the entries in your checkbook, what would it tell us about your spiritual life?

Family Night Big idea – Read 1Timothy 6:6-19.

Help your children understand that our hearts are tied to our money and stuff, and that God wants our hearts. It's a matter of priority; keeping first things first. Devotion to God first; devotion to stuff second.

Elementary School – Ask, "What do we bring into the world and what do we take out of it (v.7)? What happens to people who want more than anything to get rich (v.9)? What should we hope in – money or God?"

Middle/ High School – Ask, "Why is godliness with contentment "great gain" (v.6)? Why is it more difficult to hope in God than it is to hope in money and stuff? What is the Bible asking of you in vv.18-19?"

Prayer "Father, help us hope in You and not our wealth. We want to lay up treasures in heaven. Amen."

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: At the church this Wednesday, March 20th.

Gravity: Yes! In the Community Room.

Today's Songs

House of the Lord.....Phil Wickham

Lord I Need You.....Matt Maher

Firm Foundation.....Cody Carnes

PlusOne

PlusOne represents your opportunity for spiritual growth by strengthening your personal relationship with God. In addition to attending one of our Sunday services, we are encouraging our adult population to commit to a PlusOne opportunity. Adding something to your worship is the best way to grow in your faithwalk. See flyer in the Lobby.

Hop 'Til You Drop

Join us in KidsJAM on March 20th for fun and games from 6-7:30pm. Food will be served. Sign up in KidsJAM.

Night of Worship

Everyone is invited to come hear our band play a concert on March 29th. There will be a children's part in the program also. The evening starts at 6pm.

New Series "Follow"

Religion says, "Change and you can join us." Jesus says, "Join us and you will change." Series starts on March 24th, Palm Sunday. This is a great opportunity to invite someone who does not attend church, to come experience the difference at GCC.