

EVERYDAY DISCIPLE

DISCUSSION GUIDES

WEEK 2: WE GIVE

Read the Text

1 Timothy 6:17-19

17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Main Point

Giving is an essential part of our discipleship to Jesus. It is intrinsically linked with our heart posture towards God and our stuff. ***Our posture toward our possessions reveals where our contentment lies.*** And when we read the Bible, we see that contentment should actually come to us pretty easily: if we have food and clothing, we *should* be content! But in reality, that's not usually the case, is it?

If we're honest, most of us desire to be rich. And for those of us who are already there, we desire to maintain that status and privilege. Why wouldn't we!? Our culture offers so many benefits and so much comfort from accumulating wealth! But when we look at Paul's warning in this and other texts, we see that ***material riches often blind us to our spiritual poverty.*** When we put our hope in money and things, it will always fail us.

There is hope for us though. God invites us to trust in Him. To find contentment in Him. ***When we love what God loves, and give our time, talent and treasure to be a part of His Kingdom work here on earth, we get a taste of where true joy and contentment actually come from.*** When we show up with the unique gifts God has blessed each one of us with and we use them to add value, we will see kingdom renewal all around us.

Reflect Together

1. ***Who is God?***: God calls us to be generous. Why is generosity important to Him? Why does the Bible talk so much about generosity and giving away our time, talent, and treasure?
2. ***What has He done?***: How has God been generous with you in your life? When have you experienced glimpses of contentment in Him?
3. ***Who are you?***: We talked about those who desire to be rich, and those who are rich, and desire to stay that way. What is your relationship like with money and possessions? How do you sometimes find yourself seeking comfort and contentment in money/possessions over God and what He has already given you?
4. ***What are you to do?***: Is there an area in which God may be calling you to give your time, talent, and/or treasure? If so, what could be a next step to take towards that calling?

Abide Together

As an MC, pray together about what was revealed during this discussion. Pray that you would grow together as an MC in your generosity and that your eyes would be open to the needs around you.

Mission Together

Is there an opportunity for generosity that your MC could pursue together? Or something in your individual lives? Something in your community? A Christmas serving opportunity? A person in your neighborhood?