

Discussion Questions

INTRODUCTION

Of all the urgent needs for wisdom, the need for wisdom as it is applied to money is one of the most desperate. Popular culture seems to feel that Powerball is “America’s Game” and the wise path toward wealth. Yet, ancient wisdom challenges this with a wholly unique view. What can the Bible teach us about being wise with our wealth?

GETTING STARTED

1. When you think of an “evil, money villain” who comes to mind?
2. Share a piece of money wisdom that you learned from your parents.

BIBLE IDEA

3. Read James 5:1-8. What word would you use to describe the tone of the passage? i.e. upset, disappointed, urgent, passionate, etc.
4. Sean made the point that money can be a curse if not viewed with wisdom. Do you agree or disagree? What reasons do you have for your view?
5. In what area of finances could you practice more wisdom? What verse do you find most helpful?

NEXT STEPS

6. Money is one of the easiest aspects of spiritual growth to measure. What specific change to your financial habits would you make today as a result of today’s discussion? Do you have a specific dollar amount?
7. Describe how your life would be different 3 months from now if you made this change.

WISDOM AND WEALTH

Reflections on Wisdom #3

James 5:1-8

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. ²Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. ³Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. ⁴Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you. ⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Matthew 13:22

Wisdom is what transforms money from a _____ to a _____.

Proverbs 8:18-21, 10:22

4 Ways You Can Use Wisdom to Redeem Wealth:

A. Let wisdom change how you _____ money.

Psalm 24:1, Haggai 2:8, Prov. 10:16, 1 Timothy 6:10, Ecclesiastes 5:10, Proverbs 10:4, Proverbs 13:11

B. Let wisdom lead how you _____ money.

Proverbs 3:9-10, Hebrews 13:5, Proverbs 11:24

C. Let wisdom determine how you _____ money.

Ecclesiastes 5:13, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

D. Let wisdom keep you from _____ money.

Matthew 6:19-21, 24