

# *How to Handle Money and Possessions*

*“The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.” Proverbs 21:20*

*“Human desires are like the world of the dead—there is always room for more.” Proverbs 27:20*

**Jesus spoke more about money than any other topic. In fact, the word for “money” is used in the Bible more often than the word “love.”**

## **WHY DO I ALWAYS WANT MORE?**

1. Having more things leads to being discontent.

*“He who loves money shall never have enough. The foolish think that wealth brings happiness! The more you have, the more you spend” Ecclesiastes 5:10-11*

*“It is better to be satisfied with what you have than to be always wanting something else.” Ecclesiastes 6:9*

2. Having more things leads to wanting more things.

*“Be on your guard against greed in any shape or form. For a man’s real life in no way depends on the number of his possessions.” Luke 12:15*

3. Dependence upon wealth instead of God leads us to trouble.

*“Those who depend on their wealth will fall like the leaves of autumn.” Proverbs 11:28*

*“The rich man thinks of his wealth as an impregnable defense, a high wall of safety. What a dreamer!” Proverbs 18:11*

*“When we long to be rich we are a prey to temptation. We get trapped into all sorts of foolish and dangerous ambitions which eventually plunge us into ruin.” I Timothy 6:9*

## **HOW TO ENJOY LIFE MORE ON LESS**

1. Find my happiness in giving.

*“Jesus said, “There’s more happiness in giving than in receiving.”” Acts 20:35*

*“Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires; God will satisfy them fully.” Matthew 5:6*

2. Find my self-worth in God.

*God says, "You are precious in my sight!"* Isaiah 43:4

*"Your heavenly Father feeds the birds... Are you not more valuable than they?"* Matthew 6:26

*"The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8

3. Find my security in the Lord.

*"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'I will never leave you nor abandon you.'"* Hebrews 13:5

*"Don't store up for yourselves treasure on earth, where moths and rust destroy and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in Heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Matthew 6:19-21

*"And God shall supply all your needs."* Philippians 4:19

## **EARNING**

1. Hard work and investment promises prosperity; Laziness reaps poverty

2. Avoid schemes which entice you with "Get rich quick" possibilities.

3. Be honest to compare all expenses and liabilities to the true benefits.

4. God is the source of all you have. Trust Him to supply all your needs.

## **GIVING**

1. Your willingness to give of your possessions indicates your true devotion to God.

Mark 10:17-27; Luke 12:15-21; Matthew 6:19-24; Luke 19:8-9

2. You have a need to give. Only by giving do you receive.

Luke 6:35, 38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-13; Malachi 3:8-12; Proverbs 11:24-25

3. The church is a community of people who give to the needs of each other.

Acts 2:44, 4:32-37; Acts 11:29-30; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15; James 2:14-17; I Timothy 6:17-19

4. A tithe (10 %) of all income should be given to the Lord as a minimum of our giving.

Malachi 3:10; Matthew 23:23; Genesis 14:20; Proverbs 3:9-10