



Taking Care of God's Money
Week of February 2nd, 2014

Object of this study: To understand and apply the biblical truth that God has called us to live a life of generosity with our time, gifts & abilities, money & possessions.

Worship (5 – 10 minutes)

1. Spend five minutes in silent prayer asking God to prepare your heart for how he wants to speak to you.
2. Have someone read Psalm 112 meditatively to the group.
3. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.

Welcome (5 – 10 minutes)

1. What's a TV advertisement that has stuck in your mind lately?
2. How do you feel when you watch a TV advertisement for a new car, clothing, or electronic gadget? How does the message affect you? What thoughts go through your mind?

Word (20 – 30 minutes)

1. Read Luke 12:13-21.
 - a. Why did Jesus not want to get involved with this man's dispute?
 - b. In the parable why was it a problem that the rich man was storing his grain?
 - c. Why was God so harsh with him?
 - d. What do you think Jesus was saying by this?
 - e. What was Jesus telling the man to watch out for in verse 15? Why is greed so dangerous?
 - i. Cross reference Colossians 3:5-6
2. Read Mark 10:17-31.
 - a. Describe the rich young man? Cross reference Matthew 19:16-30 if you need to.
 - b. What was he asking from Jesus?
 - c. In answer to his question Jesus told him that he needed to obey certain of the Ten Commandments. Which ones were missing?
 - i. Why do you think Jesus neglected to mention these?
 - d. Jesus then told him that he needed to sell his possessions. How does that relate to the first part of his answer?
 - e. Jesus was probing this man's heart. What did Jesus expose?
3. Read Matthew 6:19-24.
 - a. Jesus says here that we are make eternal investments. What is eternal?
 - i. Cross reference Colossians 3:1-4.
4. Read Matthew 6:25-34.
 - a. Compare the message in these verses to 19-24. What's the point?

Work (20 – 30 minutes)

1. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10. Paul describes the pitfalls of having money as the object of our affections. What are some of the dangers?
 - a. Is this a temptation for you? Explain.
 - b. Contrast "gain" and "loss" in this passage.
2. Brainstorm about how we can use our money to make eternal investments. Be as specific as possible.
3. How can you guard your heart against greed?
4. What can you as an individual or as a Life Group do in the near future to use your money to make eternal investments?
5. Share prayer requests and pray for each other.