

Discussion Title: Show Me the Money		Category: Finances/Career
<p>Opening Question(s):</p> <p>1) How important is money? What do we use money for?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Home - Food - Clothes - Transportation <p>2) Is money the most important thing in life? Why or why not?</p> <p>3) What can happen if we prioritize money incorrectly in our lives?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Materialism - Greed - Selfish Ambition - Shady activity (cheating on taxes, etc.) <p>4) Does the Bible say that money is evil? Actually many misquote this particular Bible verse. The Bible verse actually states: “For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.” ~ 1 Timothy 6:10</p> <p>So money isn’t inherently bad, but if we love money more than anything else in life, it could lead to some challenges. Let’s take look at what the bible has to say about how we should view and handle money in our lives.</p>		<p>Pick 2-3 individuals to share. 5 – 10 minutes total.</p>
<p>Lesson:</p>		
<p>Proverbs 3:9 – Honor God with Our Money</p> <p>We are called to honor God with our wealth and our “firstfruits”.</p> <p>Q. What are ways we can honor God with our wealth?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be debt-free - Pay our debts/bills responsibly and in a timely manner - Give to the poor and needy - Resist buying things we don’t need - Support our local church to further spreading God’s message <p>Q. What do you think the Bible means by giving our “firstfruits” to God?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We should give to God first - We should give God our best - God doesn’t deserve our leftovers 		<p>Pick 1-2 individuals to answer each question (Q).</p> <p>Keep track of time during the discussion. Keep the discussion focused and on point. Avoid going off on a tangent topic.</p> <p>Additional notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Matthew 6:24 – Serve God Not Money

Q. How can we be tempted to serve “money” over God?

- We live in a materialistic world, especially in America
- “Keeping up with the Joneses” – term used when neighbors would compete to getting the latest, and greatest “thing” e.g. car, new home, etc. Pressure to be on the “cutting edge” with everyone else
- Desire to live a comfortable and attractive lifestyle e.g. swimming pool, newest car, biggest TV, latest smartphone, etc.

The Bible is pretty clear about the trap we can fall into when we don’t have the right perspective about money. When we love money over everything else, when we’re devoted to it, we cannot serve God effectively.

Deuteronomy 8:18 – Don’t Forget Where Our Money Came From

Q. What can happen to the state of our hearts if we forget where our wealth comes from?

- Ungrateful
- Arrogant
- Selfish

Conclusion: Psalm 49:10 says, “For all can see that the wise die, that the foolish and the senseless also perish, leaving their **wealth** to others? Ever hear the phrase “You can’t take it with you.” In light of all we read, doesn’t it seem senseless to choose money over God? ☹ Money isn’t inherently bad, but we need to have a godly perspective; so it remains in its right place.

Faith in Action: How would you say your perspective of money is? Take an inventory and test your management of your money against the scriptures. Is there an area you can improve? Find someone trustworthy who will hold you accountable. Obey God’s word in this area and you will surely be blessed.

Scriptures for personal study: Ecclesiastes 5:10; Hebrews 13:5; 1 Chronicles 29:12; Revelation 3:1