



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- When do you tend to feel the least content with what you have?
- How has God been faithful in providing for your needs and generous toward your desires?
- What fears serve as obstacles to greater generosity?
- What about the Gospel allows us to be content?
- In what kinds of circumstances has God grown your contentment?
- How is God currently calling you to steward your finances/resources?
- How can we help and encourage generosity in one another?

WEEK 9: UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL AND WEALTH.

1 TIMOTHY 6:2B-10

Money (wealth) is one of the hardest things for most people to get their heads and hearts around. Greed is insidious, and we often don't notice when it gains control over our lives. Jesus will even remind us to "watch out" in regard to money, because he knows of our blindness. 1 Tim 6:6-10 seems to address people who don't have a lot of money yet want it, and 1 Tim 6:17-19 seems to be for people who do have a lot of money and still think they need more. Money, by either its absence or presence, can poison our life—not because money in itself is good or bad, but because of our focus upon it.

Contentment is the ability to have joy in whatever our circumstances are—this is real wealth. We are meant to have an inner life of peace because our inner life is not based on circumstances; it is based on what Christ has already done for us in the Gospel. Paul will remind us, "That's real wealth."

In the Gospel, we are clothed and offered true peace in our reconciliation with God. The peace of knowing God's salvation, forgiveness, and righteousness are what lead us into contentment. Our adoption, sanctification, and justification are real wealth that can't be taken away. Understanding the Gospel means we value His salvation more than we value our stuff. He gave up His life for us; let the beauty and grace of Christ's work change our hearts.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

TODAY'S VERSES:

1 Timothy 6:2-10
1 Timothy 6:17
Luke 12:15

Philippians 4:11-13
Job 1:21