

THE BIBLE'S VIEW OF WEALTH

(BIBLE STUDY)

Most Hong Kong people are all brought up with a very materialistic outlook on life. Making money and accumulation of wealth is a major goal in life for most people. However, in God's kingdom, there is a new set of values. How does God see wealth? In God's eyes, what is really precious in this life?

1. **According to the Bible, money itself is not evil. What is evil? (1 Timothy 6:10)**

2. **Read Luke 12:15-21.
Jesus told a parable in this passage. According to verse 15, what was Jesus trying to illustrate by it?**

Why is it foolish to live so that we can accumulate much wealth for ourselves and put our security in that? (verse 20,21) Also read 2 Peter 3:10.

3. **Why is it foolish to accumulate wealth on earth? Where should we accumulate our wealth? (Read Matthew 6:19,21)**

How can we accumulate wealth in heaven?

According to the Bible, what will last forever? or what is transferable to the kingdom of heaven? (Matthew 24:35; John 3:36; Matthew 25:46)

One way of knowing what your view of wealth is to examine how you spend your money. How are you using your money?

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."
(Jim Elliott)

A CHRISTIAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS WEALTH

The world's view of wealth is that it is the most important thing in life. They live for the purpose of accumulating wealth. We have learnt that this view ultimately leads to disappointment and wasted effort and time. As a Christian, we should invest our lives in things that have eternal value.

In this study, we will look at a Christian's attitude towards wealth and how we should use our wealth.

1. According to 1 Corinthians 10:26, who all the wealth in the world?

According to the same verse, who owns you?

Therefore, whose responsibility is it to take care of you?

2. Read Matthew 6:24-33 and answer the following questions:

Most people in the world has chosen to serve money. As a Christian, you are faced with a choice. What choice is it? Have you made the choice? (verse 24)

Since you have committed your life to serve God, what has He promised to do? (verses 25,31-34)

How did Jesus illustrate this fact that He will take care of your needs and that you be silly to worry about your life? (verses 26-30)

- 3. Read Philippians 4:19. Did God promise to supply all that we want in life?**

What is the difference between wants and needs?

4. In the world's view, true wealth is displayed on the outside of a person. It consists of possessions like money, gold and property. However, in the Christian's view of wealth, where is true treasure to be found? (2 Corinthians 4:7)

5. How should a Christian use the wealth that he has? (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

How is your view of wealth? Does it fit in with the Bible's view point? How do you use your wealth? Does it reflect the God's desire for us?

We do not own what we have. God owns everything. We are the stewards of His treasury. **Being a good steward of God means "learning to live simply, so that others may simply live."**

DEVOTIONAL PASSAGES

Week One

Day One: 1 Corinthians 10:26; Matthew 6:24-34
Day Two: Luke 16:19-26; 1 John 3:16-18
Day Three: 1 Kings 17:8-16
Day Four: Matthew 7:9-11; 12:41-44
Day Five: James 2:15,16; 5:1-6

Scripture Memory Verses: Matthew 6:33; 1 Timothy 6:6-8

Week Two

Day One: 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6; 2 Peter 3:7-13
Day Two: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15
Day Three: Deuteronomy 8:10-20
Day Four: Matthew 6:19-34
Day Five: Luke 12:13-21

Scripture Memory Verses:

Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:15