

Stuff We Don't Want to Talk About

Session 5: Money



Discussion questions:

How have societal attitudes about money changed in your lifetime?

How has your attitude changed?

What do you think would happen if your current income was cut in half?

How about if your income doubled? What is the difference between your responses?

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There are many ways in which corruption of our beliefs about money has damaged various aspects of our society and our individual lives. Christians are called to evaluate our attitudes and actions concerning money, both because of the immediate impact our choices have and the values they demonstrate.

Jesus says that our attitudes about money convey the reality of our hearts. If that's true, then we must dedicate the same energy to surrendering our financial decisions to God as we do in surrendering our eternity to God.

Towards a Godly understanding of money:

Personal stewardship matters to God. (Genesis 2:15, 2 Corinthians 9:7)

God is not fully socialistic – work ethic and property matter to God

(Exodus 22, Numbers 33:53-54, Proverbs 24:30-34, Ephesians 4:28, 1 Timothy 5:8)

God is not fully capitalistic – compassion and generosity matter to God

(Deuteronomy 15:7-8, Proverbs 11:24-25, Matthew 19:16-24, 1 Timothy 6:18-19)

God wants us to make financial decisions based on who we worship (Matthew 6:19-33):

- If we worship God, we will be generous with money to accomplish His purposes
- If we worship ourselves, we will be greedy for money to satisfy our own desires

Takeaways:

Money is a tool that God gives us to accomplish His will in the world.

Our choices regarding money will reveal our attitude toward God

It's never too late to change your "philosophy of money."