

Money Matters 101

Quarterly Study

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE FOR STUDY 6

Money Isn't Power

Money isn't just money; it is power, but its power can go either way.

Money has the power to hurt and corrupt, or the power to heal and help. It also has the power to consume. One of our common questions is, "Am I saving enough?" We look down the road and wonder if there will be enough money for college, emergencies, and retirement. One of our basic ideas about what's in our wallet is that money can make us safe, secure, and protected. But can it?

Lesson #6

Scripture:

Proverbs 30:8; Luke 16:1–15; 1 Timothy 6:17–19; Ecclesiastes 5:10–15

PART 1

Identify the Current Issue

The trap regarding money is thinking it makes us safe. Examples of how money doesn't have the power to make us safe are the various stock market crashes or companies who raid retirement funds. People who thought they were set for life find they worked all those years for nothing. No, money doesn't have the power to make us safe. The temptation is to spend our lives planning for our future financial security, only to realize that it was a mirage. Grief can be caused by anything from working too much and neglecting our families, to moving all over the country chasing the highest paycheck and living rootless lives. We can even wander away from God, pursuing money above all else.

PART 2

Discover the Eternal Principles

Teaching point one: We need to handle wealth wisely in preparation for other responsibilities before God.

Teaching point two: We need to think about money the way God does.

Teaching point three: We need to use our money generously.

PART 3

Apply Your Findings

What is it that you dream about when it comes to money? Pray for God to infect your dreams, passions, and longings so they reflect his priorities. Take some time with your family to identify some organizations that you would like to support financially over the long haul. Create a separate checking or savings account just for compassionate giving. Keep a journal of the families or organizations that have benefited from your benevolence. Give God all the glory.



NewThing