

THE STEWARDSHIP OF AFFLUENCE

OPENING THOUGHT:

- Everything you have is a gift from God.
- Why we all need this sermon
 - If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep you are richer than _____ of the world.
 - If you have *any* money in the bank, if you have *any* money in your wallet...if you have some spare change in a dish some place, you are in the top _____ of the world's wealthy.
- Luke 16: *"If you are untrustworthy handling worldly wealth who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?"*

I. I MUST AVOID THE _____ OF MONEY.

1 Timothy 6: *"People who want to be rich fall into all sorts of temptation and traps. The love of money causes all kinds of trouble."*

- THE THREE PITFALLS OF MONEY
 1. **Thinking that having more will make me _____.**
Ecclesiastes 5:10: *"Those who love money will never have enough. How absurd to think that wealth brings true happiness. The more you have the more people come to help you spend it."*
 2. **Thinking that having more will make me more _____.**
Luke 12: *"Don't always be wishing for what you don't have, for real life and real living are not related to how rich we are."*
 3. **Having more will make me more _____.**
Proverbs 23:5: *"Your money can be gone in a flash as if it had grown wings and flown away like an eagle."*
Job 36:19: *"Your reputation and your riches cannot protect you from distress."*

II. APPLY THE _____ OF MONEY.

1 Timothy 6:17-18: *"Tell people to use their money to do good. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven. It is the only safe investment for eternity."*

- FIVE BIBLICAL USES OF MONEY
 1. **Use your money to express _____.**
Proverbs 3:9: *"Honor the Lord by giving Him the first part of all your income."*
Matthew 6:21: *"For where your treasure is there your heart will be also."*
Deuteronomy 14:23: *"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to put God first in your lives."*
 2. **We should use our money to encourage _____.**
Romans 12:13: *"Share what you have with God's people who are in need and show hospitality."*
Hebrews 10: *"Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another, to show love and to do good."*

3. We need to use it to _____.
 Proverbs 10:16: *"The earnings of the godly enhance their lives, but evil people squander their money on sin."*
 The key area of growth that God desires to see is in our _____.
 Proverbs 23:23: *"Buy truth and don't sell it for love or money. Buy wisdom. Buy education. Buy insight."*

4. Use money to extend your _____.
 Definition of ministry: _____.
 Proverbs 11:24 says, *"The world of the generous gets larger and larger. And the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller."*
 Proverbs 28:27: *"Give to the poor and you will never be in need. But if you close your eyes to the poor many will curse you."*
 Proverbs 19:17: *"When you give back to the poor it's like lending to the Lord. And the Lord will pay you back."*

5. God wants us to use our money to extend _____.
 ➤ We make a living by what _____, but we make a life by what _____.
 2 Corinthians 9: *"You will honor God through this genuine act of service because of your commitment to spread the good news of Christ, and because of your generosity in sharing."*

CONCLUSION:

TREASURY FUNDS _____

MUTUAL FUNDS _____

GROWTH FUNDS _____

EQUITY FUNDS _____

GLOBAL FUNDS _____

The prayer of Agur.

Proverbs 30:7-9: *"Lord, don't let me become too poor or too rich. Just give me what I need. For if I have too much I might forget about You, and if I don't have enough I might steal and disgrace Your name."*