

## Community Group Discussion Guide

## Week of August 9, 2015

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: The Bible speaks to how money is obtained and to how it should be used. It warns how it can corrupt and deceive. What the Bible really bears witness to regarding money is the condition and focus of the human heart. The idolatrous heart seeks power, security, and identity in the accumulation of wealth. But through the Gospel we learn that Jesus Christ's sacrificial death on the cross is our greatest profit.

"To see a man humble under prosperity is the greatest rarity in the world." Bernard Clairvaux

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Matthew 6:33

**Related Texts:** Proverbs 10:15-16, 11:1, 11:4, 11:26, 13:21, 13:23, 18:10-11, 18:16, 30:8-9; Matthew 6:33; John 10:28, 16:33; Philippians 3:8

## **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What was most inspiring about this week's sermon/text?
- What is godly wisdom? Discuss how wisdom cannot be found without first having a relationship with Jesus Christ, wisdom personified. Reference 1 Corinthians 1:24 and Colossians 2:3.
- Read Proverbs 11:4. What does "righteousness" mean? Reference Matthew 6:33. How is it possible for sinful humans to live righteously? If riches are no benefit on the day of judgment, what is?
- Who is the person who "holds back grain" in Proverbs 11:26? What motivates his deceptive ways, and what is he after? Contrast him with the wise seller.

- Read Proverbs 10:15-16. Discuss how both the rich person and poor person mistakenly seek safety and security in wealth. How is this idolatry? Where is true safety and eternal security found? Reference Proverbs 18:10-11 and John 10:28.
- Read Proverbs 30:8-9. What is the writer (Agur) concerned about in this passage? Explain the following statement: what I value most is exposed by how I view and handle money. How is an unhealthy view of money linked to mistaken identity? Reference Philippians 3:8.
- What did Jesus mean in Mark 12:17? Who is God to you, and what is His?
- How does the Gospel lead us to handling our money wisely? What are some practical ways
  we can use our money to promote the mission of God's Church?

Next Week's Text: Sloth