



generosity

Community Group Discussion Guide

August 3, 2014

Week 1 | Contentment and Trust
I Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

Introduction

Paul writes two letters to Timothy, one of the men he's chosen to carry on his work in the churches he began. In both of these letters he gives Timothy instructions on how to lead the churches he's been given oversight.

Paul speaks to several key issues, including the attitude we should have toward money. He speaks to this in 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and 17-19.

Read all of 1 Timothy 6 and then answer the following questions.

Questions for Study

1. How did you earn your first dollar? Do you remember what you did with your first paycheck?
2. What would you say was the dumbest thing you ever did with money? What would you say was the smartest thing you've done?
3. What is the hardest financial decision you've ever made?
4. Is there one or two people you identify as your best model for how best to deal with finances? If yes, who and why?
5. Do you consider yourself rich? If not, at what point would you say someone is rich? (How much money would they need to earn? What would their net worth need to be?)
6. What percentage of people in the world do you think earn \$44 to 45 thousand a year?

Paul gave Timothy guidelines on what to teach and then he makes this statement at the end of verse two in chapter six: "These are the things you are to teach and insist on." Following this he writes in verse 3: "If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, they are conceited and understand nothing. He then gives a description of what these individuals are doing and thinking, concluding with this statement at the end of verse 5: "...who think that godliness is a means to financial gain."

7. What does this say about their motivation for doing what's right and their complete misunderstanding of an end result a person should expect for being righteous? Do we hear any of this kind of thing taught today? If yes, when have you heard it?
8. In contrast to this false idea of godliness and financial gain, Paul wrote in verse 6: "But godliness with contentment is great gain." What is Paul saying? What is the "great gain?"
9. In verses 6-10, Paul draws a contrast between contentment and an obsession with getting rich. What is his main point? How should it be applied?
10. What is the danger that comes with "the love of money?"
11. In verse 17, Paul speaks to the person who is rich. What are the two things he tells them not to do? Why is he right in saying this?
12. In this same verse what does Paul tell a rich person to do? Why is he right about this too?