

1 **Our text this weekend brings up the topic of money.** It isn't wrong to have money, but we must be careful that we don't ever place our hope in it. The Lord is our hope and he is the giver of good gifts. When we find satisfaction in him, we experience true life. How have you seen those things to be true in your own life?

 *Why do people have a tendency to look to material things for satisfaction rather than to God?*


 *How does Satan use materialism to blind Christians?*

 *Think about the way you handle money, shopping, and possessions. Do you tend to seek contentment from those things? How can we fight against this tendency?*


 *What steps do you take to maintain a proper attitude toward material things while living in this culture?*

 *What are some of the things that hold people back from giving radically of their money, time, and energy to God's work?*

2 **What is Paul's attitude toward wealth?** Does he condemn it? Talk about the following from a biblical perspective:

 *Read Proverbs 23:4-5, James 4:13-14, Ecclesiastes 5:10, Matthew 6:19-21, and Hebrews 13:5 and discuss the following questions from a Biblical perspective: In what way is money uncertain? Why is the love of money a delusion? How can we flee from the love of money in today's society?*

3 **Are Paul's instructions in 1 Tim 6:17-19 only for the richest in society?** What application should those in financially lower classes or the middle class find in this text? Explain.

 *How can whatever possessions we have be put to good use for the cause of Christ?*

 *What does it look like to practically take steps to move from greed to generosity?*

4 **How could a church even unintentionally show preference to wealthier members and visitors?**

 *How can a proper view of eternity correct this kind of partiality?*

5 **Which of these do you need to pursue as an area of growth: personal integrity, godly conduct, faithfulness, sacrificial love, endurance, gentleness?** What are some practical steps you could take away from sin and towards the Lord in that matter.

6 **If you're a person who likes to debate ideas, especially biblical ideas, how can you make sure you don't have an unhealthy interest in controversy and are not just stirring up quarrels?**