

HOW TO **BE** RICH

Good News, Bad News

1 Timothy 6:17

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

1. The good news is: you're _____

Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them...this is a gift of God. Ecclesiastes 5:19

- If you ever are going to get good at being rich, you first have to _____ you are rich.

2. The bad news is: you're _____

Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Luke 18:24-25

- It is hard to _____ on God
"You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24

- Money is _____ Matthew 13:22

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 1 Timothy 6:10

3 Red Flags that you Love and Trust Money

1. You never _____

Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. Ecclesiastes 5:10

2. You have money in the bank but no _____

Better a little with the fear of the LORD than great wealth with turmoil. Proverbs 15:16

3. You'll find it increasingly hard to _____

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse...Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10

Money has Power

"When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required." Luke 12:48

God uses money as a spiritual _____ to transform our lives.

A Prayer

God, you are my Provider.

I will no longer be deceived by wealth, thinking it will make me happier and more secure because that's a promise only you can make. I will not seek meaning in the things of this world. I'll only seek it from you, the one who gives life. Amen.

Daily Growth:

As you study, use the “4 C” questions below to study and apply the scripture. Be sure to finish your study with a time of prayer.

The 4 C Questions

CELEBRATE: What can you praise God for from this passage?

CONFESS: Does this passage convict you of something you need to confess to God?

COMMIT: What commitment does this passage challenge you to make?

COMMUNICATE: What did you learn that you could share with someone else?

Day 1: Read 1 Chronicles 29:9-20. What stands out to you after reading this passage? What is the good news about wealth? What does David say about God in his prayer? How does that motivate generosity? What does David say about who provided what was given? What was the attitude in which people gave? How does giving relate to our faith and worship of God? What does this passage say about how to be rich? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 2: Read Deuteronomy 8:10-20. What is the bad news about wealth? What is the warning given? What can wealth do to our attitude and faith? There is irony in this passage, do you recognize it? What is it? Is there any similarity between what is described in this passage and your own life? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 3: Read Malachi 3:6-12. Note: “tithe” is a Hebrew word meaning “a tenth” and refers to 10% of your income. What does this passage say about how to be rich? How does God say we are to return to Him? If we do not do what is taught in this passage, what would it mean we are doing to God? God says, “Test me in this.” How can giving be an act that expresses and builds our faith and relationship with God? Often we think giving means we will have less. What does this passage suggest about that view? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 4: Read Luke 18:18-27. What was the rich man hoping for? What did Jesus realize about the man that caused him to issue the challenge he gave? What did the man discover about himself? Why is it harder for a rich man to go to heaven? What does Jesus mean when he says that “what is impossible with men is possible with God”? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 5: Read Luke 19:1-10. As you read, try to imagine that you are there watching it happen? Who would you be? From what vantage point are you experiencing the story – Jesus, the disciples, Zacchaeus, or the crowd? What stand out to you in this story? What role does wealth play in this story? How does Zacchaeus show that his commitment was real and his heart had changed? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?

Day 6: Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Does this passage say it is bad to be wealthy? What does this passage say is good about wealth? What warning is given? What is the purpose of wealth? After this week’s devotions, what actions will you take to live out what you are learning? What is God saying to you (use the “4 C” questions)?