

BETTER THAN

current point series

#betterthan 



Discussion
Gu'de

“more than enough”

11/8/15

The Point:

Pursuing Jesus is Better Than Pursuing Money...because Jesus is who provides for our needs

Discussion Generators

Don't forget to make announcements to your group!

- ➔Go around your group and share your God Moments from the past weeks (God Moments are how you have seen God working, either in your life, or in the life of another).
- Be looking for how you see God working, so that you have something to share next time.
- Without making it too vindictive or discouraging, share a story about a time when *someone else* took credit for something that *you* did well.
- Read Luke 12:16-19. Reviewing the point...in this passage, how did the farmer take credit for something that someone else did? Who was the "someone else"? [God]
- How does this tie into the idea that we are managers (stewards) of what God gives us?
- ➔Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10. *Pursuing* money implies that it belongs to us and that it is *up to us* to earn it. According to verses 9 & 10 of 1 Timothy 6, what else is a danger with pursuing money?
- ➔How have you seen yourself or others wander from God by pursuing money?

- When you think of the word “riches”, what thoughts come to mind?
- Assign people to look up and read each of the following passages. In each passage, discuss how Paul defines “riches”:
 - Romans 2:4
 - Romans 9:23
 - Romans 11:33
 - 2 Corinthians 8:2
 - Ephesians 1:7
 - Ephesians 1:18
 - Ephesians 2:7
 - Ephesians 3:8
 - Ephesians 3:16
 - Philippians 4:19
 - Colossians 1:27
 - Colossians 2:2
 - 1 Timothy 6:17
- Read Matthew 6:19-24. In our culture there is an unwritten expectation that everyone *should* be pursuing money on some level. In verse 24 of this passage and in Luke 12:21, do you think Jesus sees it that way? Why or why not?
- ➔ We all make excuses when it comes to pursuing money (Jesus said it is hard! Mark 10:23-25). We’ve been together for a while now: be real and share your personal struggle when it comes to money: perhaps wanting more? dissatisfaction with what you have? giving it away? etc.
- ➔ Ultimately it comes down to trust. Close with a time of reflection: Have a good reader read **Matthew 6:24-34** out loud SLOWLY, pausing at each verse as everyone listens in silence. After it is read, have someone close in prayer asking God to help you trust Him with your money.

Bible Verses

Luke 12:13-21 (NIV) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...15 Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."
16 And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' 18 "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. 19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." ' 20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' 21 "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...9 But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

"Riches" Passages

[see pg.3]

Matthew 6:19-24 (NIRV) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

19 "Do not put away riches for yourselves on earth. Moths and rust can destroy them. Thieves can break in and steal them. 20 Instead, put away riches for yourselves in heaven. There, moths and rust do not destroy them. There, thieves do not break in and steal them. 21 Your heart will be where your riches are... 24 You can't serve God and Money at the same time.