WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Notes

Sermon Title: What Jesus Says About Money
Key Scripture: Matthew 6:19-24 and Luke 12:15-21
Recorded Sermon: www.woodvale.ca/pastservices/what-jesus-says-about-money
Date + Speaker: March 3, 2024; Pastor Mark Scarr

The BIG IDEA (the suggested 'take away' for this study derived from the sermon): According to Jesus, money is a SPIRITUAL issue.

Starter Question:

1. What was your first job and how much did you get paid? OR Were you a 'spender' or a 'saver'? Why? [Whether we are coming from a 'poverty' theology or a 'prosperity' theology our goal is to adopt/develop a 'proper' theology where money and possessions are viewed as a trust given by God that we are to steward.]

Discussion Questions to Review (observation):

2. Read Matthew 6:19-24 What words, phrases or ideas stand out to you from this passage and why?

3. Pastor Mark shared that Jesus talked more about money than either heaven or hell. Does this surprise you? Why or why not?

Discussion Questions for Digging Deeper (interpretation and application):

4. Reread Matt 6:19-21. Pastor Mark highlighted the words 'for yourself' implying that this was key and that neither investing/storing or treasures/possessions were evil in and of themselves. How might asking yourself "How long will it last?" and "Where are you investing your time and money?" help to discern what to invest in and what not to?

5. How did you respond when you heard that the sermon topic was going to be money? Jesus says that our heart follows things and not the other way around. How have you found this to be so in your own life?

6. Reread Matt 6:24. “Who do you serve?” Would you say that money serves you or the other way around and why?

7. Read Luke 12:15-21 then take some time to share godly, tried and true money management strategies. These may include but are not limited to those highlighted by Pastor Mark: Earn it (Work for a living if you can); Prioritize it (Live within your means); Plan it (Do you know what you make and what you spend); Tithe it (First 10^{th}); Save it (10-10-80 rule); Repay it (stay away from paying interest if you can); ENJOY it (You cannot take it with you and money and things aren’t evil).

**One of the most spiritual things you may do is to cut up your credit card and stop spending more than you make.

Poverty theology: This view teaches that we should have a disdain for possessions and excess money (anxiety around spending OR earning enough).

Prosperity theology: This teaching assumes that financial prosperity is the reward of the righteous.