

PROVERBS

Week 9: Wisdom and Wealth

Primary Passages: Proverbs 3:9, 10:4-5 + 15-16, 11:1,4,7 + 28, 21:20 and 30:8-9.

"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditures excludes them."

- C.S. Lewis

LifeGroup Study Guide:

Recap: Have someone read Proverbs 3:9, 10:15-16, 21:20 and 30:8-9 and recap the big ideas from this week's sermon.

- Where do you see people in our culture worshiping money like a god and/or failing to receive it as a gift from God?

Read Proverbs 10:15-16 and 30:8-9. How is your heart when it comes to finances? Are you content with your current income and standard of living? How much pressure do you feel for wealth to provide you a sense of security and significance?

Read Proverbs 21:20. Snapshot assessment of your practical finances:

Do you have a working budget? _____ .

How are you tracking your budget? _____ .

How much consumer debt do you have (excluding car and mortgage)? _____ .

What percentage of your income are you saving? _____ .

What percentage of your income are you tithing and giving? _____ .

Read Proverbs 11:24-25 and 3:9. In light of those answers, what changes do you need to make? How can we help as your LifeGroup? How can we encourage you to trust in Jesus and walk in the freedom of knowing money is a good gift, but a bad god?

Pray for God's Spirit to give us the freedom to walk in the light when it comes to our money.

Pray for our minds and hearts to be filled with gospel-motivated generosity and wisdom to work hard, save wisely and give lavishly.