



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Proverbs: Three Principles of the Truly Wealthy

GETTING STARTED

How do you define happiness?

What is your most treasured possession? Why?

Why do most people want more than what they already have?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

Why should any conversation about money start with a simple question:

"Have I what is enough?"

1. What is at the heart of this question for us as Christians?
2. What would answering this question do in the area of my budget, spending, saving and giving?

In the message Dave addressed three principles of the "truly wealthy" in Proverbs...

- They Choose Character Before Wealth

Read Proverbs 22:1; 19:7; 8:10-11 again.

1. In what way is character more valuable than wealth? Why?
2. What does the Proverb mean when it say, "nothing you desire can compare to it?" What do we desire that doesn't compare?

- They Become Wealthy the Hard Way?

Read Proverbs 10:4; 22:7; 13:11; 12:11; 11:18; 22:16 again...

1. Have you ever known someone who tried a quick rich scheme and failed?
2. Why do you think God's provision comes to us through hard work, patience, discipline, doing the right thing over time rather than just fast and expediently?
3. What can you learn and apply from this principle?

- They Know that Money Given is Never Lost

Read Proverbs 11:24-28

How do you tend to think about giving?

What does this Proverb teach us about what happens when we give?

How can trusting in money bring us down with it?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Ecclesiastes 5:10-20]

What unflattering truths hold for the person who loves money? (5:10-12)

What grievous evil did Solomon notice? (5:13-17)
What is good and proper for a person to do? (5:18)
What sort of experience did Solomon describe as a gift from God? (5:19)
What happens to the person who has wealth and possessions? (5:20)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

Why is money unable to bring happiness or contentment?
If we cannot take anything with us when we die, why do we work so hard to acquire things?
How should we go about finding satisfaction in our work?
What does it mean to accept one's lot in life?
What is the connection between accepting one's lot in life and finding happiness?
Why is it so hard for us to accept our lot in life?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in these passages?
What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage?
How can we pray for each other?