

# 7 DEVELOPING VALUES: ATTITUDES TOWARDS MONEY AND WEALTH

---



## **A. Introduction**

We live in a world of materialism where one's worth is often determined by the wealth one has. The car one drives and the place one lives have become symbols of achievement in our communities. The temptation to get rich quickly and match one's peers is high. Any opportunities to 'eat' are taken with zeal. However, little is said about the dangers and consequences of 'getting rich quickly' by acquiring wealth illegally, especially through the looting of public coffers. In this study, we learn about walking the thin line between improving our lifestyles through dubious means and earning an honest living. For indeed, "godliness with contentment is great gain."

## **B. An Exhortation: Matthew 6:19-34**

1. What were the people exhorted to do and not to do, and why?
2. How would you describe the attitude encouraged in this passage?
3. a. What is the importance in the fight against corruption of developing this attitude to individuals and societies?

- b. What motivates you in your daily pursuit of wealth?

**C. A Warning: 1 Timothy 6:1-20**

1. a. Identify the pitfalls in the pursuit of wealth mentioned in this passage.  
b. What instructions does the passage give to help avoid these pitfalls?
2. From this passage, what possible impacts could the pursuit of wealth have on one's discipleship?
3. a. How is the message of this passage reflected in our society today, either positively or negatively?  
b. How can you ensure that you do not fall into any of the pitfalls mentioned above?

**D. Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 6:6-8**

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."

**E. Point of Reflection**

Are there points at which the message of this study conflicts with some things you have believed and probably held dear? Spend a few moments reflecting on this. Are you willing to let go and turn around? Make a definite commitment and pray about it.

**Additional Passages**

Matthew 19:16-22, Job 1:13-22.