

LESSON 7

FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY

1 TIMOTHY 6:3–21



1 If you could take any of your possessions with you to heaven, what would you like to take? Why?

2 How can you tell if someone loves money?



Read 1 Timothy 6:3–21 and the following notes:

☐ 6:3–5 ☐ 6:6 ☐ 6:6–10 ☐ 6:8 ☐ 6:10 ☐ 6:11, 12 ☐ 6:17–19

3 What is the connection between false teaching and desire for financial gain?

4 How did Paul recommend that Timothy deal with the temptation to love money?

5 How can wealth be a problem for a Christian?

What is so attractive about wealth that we will sacrifice the rest of our life to get it? What is it about money that makes it so addictive? Why is it so difficult to see that we are being caught up by the love of money? Wanting to be rich or wanting to have more is not just a disease of the wealthy. So beware if you think you do not have to worry about greed because you are in debt rather than wealthy. You may still love money even though you have not yet stockpiled much of it. The problem is not how much money you have but how badly you want it. It is the love of money that is a root of all kinds of evil, and keeping our heart weeded of this root proves more difficult than we may think. Most people want more money, and few would turn down a quick opportunity to make some cash. We must carefully consider our desires and keep our priorities straight, because wanting more money can lead to many kinds of sin.



6 What is the danger of wanting to get rich? What impact does this desire have on personal faith? on family? on church involvement? on relationships?

7 To what extent do the people in your church love money?

8 How can we learn to be content with what we have? Why is this so difficult?



9 What have you used to help curb your desire for wealth?

10 Why is it difficult to live on less than you earn? What guidelines do you use to make major spending decisions?

11 When is the desire for more money sinful or unhealthy? When is it right for you to want more money?

12 What is it that drives you to want more money? What is it that will free you from these desires?

13 What are you doing that is primarily fueled and driven by the love of money? What would you stop doing if it were not for the love of money?

14 What would happen if you decided to be content with what you have? What would happen if you decided to try to live on less? How difficult would this be for you to do? What barriers would you face in attempting this?

15 What would it take for you to get rid of your love of money? What practical steps can you take now to start the process?



A How can the love of money weaken your faith?

B What does it mean to fight the good fight for what we believe? How do we hold tightly to eternal life?

C How can we command those who are rich not to put their hope in their riches? How can we get them to listen to us without suspicion? How wealthy do you have to be before this command applies to you?

D What does it take for you to say no to an opportunity for additional income? What criteria do you use for making that decision?

E Why is it so difficult to be generous and give our money away even though we may have more than enough on which to live?

F How do we store up treasure in heaven?

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