

October 21, 2012

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Selected Scriptures

“Wisdom with Wealth”

- I. Attitude toward Wealth
- II. Acquisition of Wealth
- III. Allocation (Use) of Wealth

Discussion Questions:

1. What is “wealth”? Is wealth different from money? Can a person be wealthy without having a lot of money?
2. Which is more valuable, wisdom or wealth? Read Prov. 3:13-14; 8:10-11, 18-19; 16:16; 23:4-5; 28:22. What would change in your current lifestyle if you pursued wisdom with greater energy than you pursue making money? Be very practical & realistic. What benefits would you and those around you enjoy if you lived that way?
3. Read Prov. 15:17, 21; 17:1; 16:8; 19:1; 22:1. What other things are more valuable than wealth? What will you specifically do this week to pursue those things in your personal life?
4. Some people believe that being rich is a sign of God’s blessing and that being poor is a sign of God’s judgment. Others believe that poor people are inherently more godly. According to Proverbs, which is correct? Support your view with verses.
5. Is money the root of all sorts of evil? What should our attitude be toward money / riches / wealth? What positive attitudes should we have and what negative attitudes should we have? What are the potential benefits of wealth and the potential detriments of wealth?
6. Some have said that there are four classes of people: 1) Righteous Rich; 2) Unrighteous Rich; 3) Righteous Poor; 4) Unrighteous Poor. How would you define each of these? What might be the characteristics of each class?
7. One advertising campaign said, “There are some things money can't buy. For everything else, there’s MasterCard.” According to Proverbs, what are some things that money (and credit cards) can’t buy? (See Prov. 11:4, 6, 28; 17:16; 18:11, 22; 19:14; 23:4-5)
8. What might wealth / money do to your friendships? (See Prov. 14:20; 19:4, 6)
9. Read Prov. 30:7-9. What negative consequences can come from having too little or too much money? How could people guard themselves from having that happen even if they had “too little” or “too much money”? What attitudes would they need to develop toward God and toward money?
10. What attitude(s) do you need to change toward money / wealth in order to be “wise” according to Proverbs?
11. Bonus question: Why is the proper handling of money / wealth critical to our spiritual vitality and our fruitfulness in God’s kingdom? (See Luke 16:10-14)