

Sermon Notes

October 22, 2017

1 Timothy 6:2-19: How to use Money Missionally

1 Peter 3:15 NLT

15 Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

CULTURE: Love of money is the root of all kinds of evil (love money, use people)

COUNTER-CULTURE: Money is the root of all kinds of good (love people, use money)

How to use money missionally:

1. Work diligently

... work is one of the most obvious, but often overlooked, ways we provide for the poor.

David Platt

Genesis 2:15 ESV

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Acts 18:3 ESV

3 and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.

"A man's opportunities to do good to others increase with the abundance of his riches."

John Calvin

How to use money missionally:

2. Live Simply

Ecclesiastes 5:10 NLT

10 Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!

2 Corinthians 9:10 NLT

10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

The entire concept of saving money so that we can live a life of ease and self-indulgence has no biblical foundation whatsoever.

How to use money missionally:

3. Give Sacrificially

2 Corinthians 8:2-4 NLT

2 They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity. 3 For I can testify that they gave not only what they could

afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. 4 They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem.

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 charities expenditure excludes them.

C.S. Lewis

How to use money missionally:

4. Help constructively

Giving to those in need is not about sharing handouts; it's about sharing life. Helping those in need doesn't consist of throwing our money at something; it involves investing our lives in someone, which is much, much harder to do.

David Platt

How to use money missionally:

5. Invest eternally

Matthew 6:19-20 NLT

19 "Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.

Mark 10:21 ESV

21 And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Mark 10:29-30 NLT

29 "Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for my sake and for the Good News, 30 will receive now in return a hundred times as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property—along with persecution. And in the world to come that person will have eternal life.

1 John 3:17 ESV

17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Questions to consider:

1. Am I using the abilities God has given me for productive work?
2. Are there things in my life I could do without?
3. Am I giving enough away?
4. Am I giving of myself personally to help others?
5. Am I investing for short-term or long-term gain?