

Food for Thought

For the week of August 24, 2014

(Questions and Scriptures for further personal study)

1. This weekend, Larry cautioned us to not be consumed by wealth and to trust God over money. What comfort could the following verses give to someone who has trouble trusting God in the area of finances?

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

Matthew 6:25-26

Philippians 4:19

2. Greed can easily be overlooked and is often not viewed to be as “bad” as other sins. What’s your response to God placing greed in the same category as the other sins in the following verses?

Romans 1:29-31

Ephesians 5:3

Colossians 3:5

Why do you think God considers greed as serious as the other sins?

3. Many of us have a natural tendency to think acquiring more things will help us feel better and more complete. God frequently challenges this sort of thinking by challenging us to be content with what we have. How could the following verses help someone who finds themselves continuously thinking life would be better “if I only had _____?”

Philippians 4:10-13

Hebrews 13:5

Matthew 6:33

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1. This weekend, Larry cautioned us to not be consumed by wealth and to trust God over money. What comfort could the following verses give to someone who has trouble trusting God in the area of finances?

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

11 Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, Lord, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.

12 Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all. [NIV]

Matthew 6:25-26

Do Not Worry

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? [NIV]

Philippians 4:19

19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. [NIV]

2. Greed can easily be overlooked and is often not viewed to be as "bad" as other sins. What's your response to God placing greed in the same category as the other sins in the following verses?

Romans 1:29-31

29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. [NIV]

Ephesians 5:3

3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. [NIV]

Colossians 3:5

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. [NIV]

Why do you think God considers greed as serious as the other sins?

3. Many of us have a natural tendency to think acquiring more things will help us feel better and more complete. God frequently challenges this sort of thinking by challenging us to be content with what we

have. How could the following verses help someone who finds themselves continuously thinking life would be better “if I only had _____?”

Philippians 4:10-13

Thanks for Their Gifts

10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength. [NIV]

Hebrews 13:5

5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,
“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” [NIV]

Matthew 6:33

33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. [NIV]