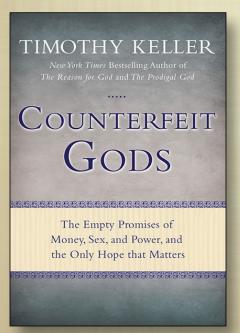


Luke is continually talking about money, and of course, 11 out of Jesus' 39 parables are directly on money and on what we're supposed to do with our money. That means at least 28 percent of the time Jesus opened his mouth, and maybe more, he was talking about money.

Tim Keller: "How Money Makes Us Fools" 11/16/97

As a pastor I've had people come to me and confess that they struggle with almost every kind of sin. Almost. I cannot recall anyone ever coming to me and saying, "I spend to much money on myself. I think

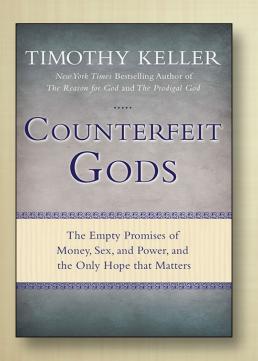


my greedy lust for money is harming my family, my soul, and people around me."

- "Counterfeit Gods" pg.52

"Jesus warns people far more often about greed than about sex, yet almost no one thinks they are guilty of it.

Therefore we should all begin with the



hypothesis that "this could easily be a problem for me."

-"Counterfeit Gods" pg.53



"What Not to Do With Your Money" - Dan Wilvers 5/30/10

1. Money is a tool and test.

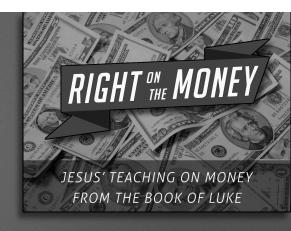
- a. It's a *TOOL* to be used for God's purposes in your life.
- b. Money *TEST* our character, values, priorities, and responsibilities.

Seeking God's insight on our finances.

"Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples"

Luke 12:1

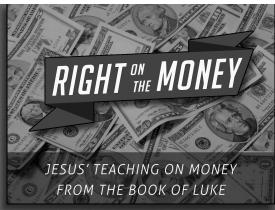
1. A Request:



Jesus is asked to intervene in a family financial dispute.

Luke 12:13 Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me."

2. The Refusal:



Jesus is far more concerned that you have a generous heart than He is with your increased standard of living.

Luke 13:14 "Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?"

Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own." 16 Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. ¹⁷ He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.'

Luke 12:15-17

Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. 19 And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!"'

Luke 12:18 & 19

"But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' 21 "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

Luke 12:20 & 21

"Beware! Guard against every kind of greed"

5 times: "I" will do.

"my" crops, "my" barn, "my" goods, "my" soul.

"Life is not measured by how much you own."

"Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry"

Luke 12:15-21



"Beware! Guard against every kind of greed"

5 times: "I" will do.

"my" crops, "my" barn, "my" goods, "my" soul.

"Life is not measured by how much you own."

"Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry"

Luke 12:15-21

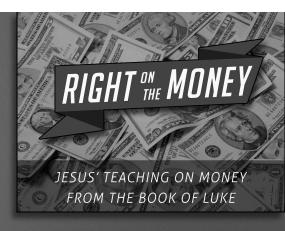


"You must renounce comfort as the chief value of your life"



Pastor Mike Ayers

3. A Rebuke:



Jesus' story is a sharp rebuke to people who disregard being good managers of what God gives them.

<u>Luke 13:20</u> "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?"

Growing a rich relationship with God.

1. Commit yourself to giving thanks every time you deposit money or have the opportunity to enjoy what it produces.



Growing a rich relationship with God.

2. Revisit your budget or print out your last months bank statement. Does it reflect a dedication to selfless generosity? If not, revisit 1 Corinthians 9:7 using it as a guideline to adjust your spending.

Growing a rich relationship with God.

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

-2 Corinthians 9:7