

Ecclesiastes Sermon Series: Week of May 26, 2024

2023-24 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
- Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
- 1. Since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set?
- 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

"Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless. As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owners except to feast their eyes on them?" (Ecclesiastes 5:10-11) "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." (1 Timothy 6:10)

"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" (Hebrews 13:5).

In sermon, it was suggested that the accumulation of wealth results in three specific problems:

- PROBLEM #1: a lack of contentment comes with accumulated wealth. When wealth becomes an object of affection a thing that is loved that desire is never satisfied.
- PROBLEM #2: a restlessness emerging out of anxious worry comes with accumulated wealth.
- PROBLEM #3: the accumulation of wealth introduces the challenge of properly dispersing or putting to use one's wealth (legacy concerns).
- 1. How real do you think the "mo' money, mo' problems" understanding of accumulated wealth is? How have you seen this at work in the world?
- 2. When you think of the idea of the "love of money", for what reasons do you consider this a troublesome "love" in life?
- 3. Discuss each of the above problems related to the love of money. How have you witnessed these problems in the world around us?
- 4. How does a relationship with Jesus help us address each problem?
- 5. From a practical perspective, how might you keep your life free from the love of money?
- 6. Have you found yourself concerned with the legacy you may leave for others? In light of our passage today, what changes, if any, might you make to your legacy-leaving practices?

Discussion Questions Set #2

"For who knows what is good for a person in life, during the few and meaningless days they pass through like a shadow? Who can tell them what will happen under the sun after they are gone?" (Ecclesiastes 6:12)

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

"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. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:12-13).

- 1. Discuss Ecclesiastes 6:12. How does one's faith in Jesus lend confidence or comfort to answering these questions?
- 2. Why is the way we determine that which is "good" important? Think about cultural evaluations of the "good"; how are these evaluations arrived at? How might the process of determining that which is "good" change the evaluation of that which is "good"?
- 3. What is contentment? How would you define it? How might this differ from a worldly understanding of happiness or fulfillment?
- 4. Philippians 4:13 is often quoted you'll see many athletes with this tattooed somewhere on their bodies. How does the context this verse is delivered in change our interpretation? What difference does it make that the Apostle Paul claims this in relation to his contentment found in Jesus Christ?

