

How to Be Good & Rich

It is not bad to be rich, but so many are bad at being rich. It takes intention and wisdom to know how to be good and rich, so for four weeks we will be exploring the truths in 1 Timothy 6:17-19 to grow as faithful and joyful stewards. Not only can we use our wealth to bless others, but through generosity we can bless ourselves by taking hold of the life that is truly life!

Week 1: Maintain Humility

1. Rick began by pointing out a *huge truth most Christians in our culture need to accept: **it's not bad to be rich but most are bad at being rich.*** What is significant about that distinction? Follow up: How has your perspective on “being rich” changed over the years?
2. **RICH ADVERSITY. Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19.** Share one thing that stands out to you from this passage. How does that encourage or convict you? Follow up: **Read Matthew 19:23-26.** What astonishes you the most from what Jesus said? In what ways can wealth make receiving salvation especially difficult?
3. **Read 1 Timothy 6:17.** Rick noted that Paul connects affluence with arrogance for these possible reasons: *wealth can produce a false sense of security, wealth can fuel a lust for notoriety, and wealth can enable an escape from accountability.* Which of these reasons have been a real struggle for you? Follow up: What is one thing you can do to effectively combat each of these realities when you come up against them?
4. **RICH ADVICE: Admit *your material wealth.*** Why do you think we are so often hesitant to admit that we are rich? If I am rich, why don't I feel rich? Follow up: What are some practical ways we might acknowledge our wealth and use it to glorify God?
5. **RICH ADVICE: Submit to *biblical teaching.*** Why do you think the Bible has so much to say about money and wealth (over 2000 verses and Jesus constantly addressed the topic)? Follow up: **Read Deuteronomy 8:16-18.** What resonates with you the most from these verses? Share one way these words can help you cultivate a spirit of humility.
6. **RICH ADVICE: Commit to *eternal goals.* Read Luke 12:13-21.** Why was the man in this parable called a fool? When have you experienced the tension of laying up treasure for yourself instead of being rich toward God? Follow up: Who is someone who modeled investing in eternity for you? What have you learned from them about being good & rich?
7. *We have been trusted with a great wealth so we can make a great difference.* What is one thing you plan to do differently as a result of what you learned in this message?

