

## 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 2: Accept Reality

1. Why is it important that we talk about money at church? Why do you think we don't do so very often? Follow up: **Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19**. What resonates with you the most from this passage today? Why is putting our hope in wealth so uncertain?
2. **HOPE MISPLACED: Read 1 Timothy 6:9-10**. What words or phrases jump out at you from these verses? In what ways can an unhealthy relationship with money complicate a person's life? Follow up: **God does not view money as neutral; He views money as a rival. Read Matthew 6:24**. What's the number one way money competes for your heart?
3. **If you want to be good and rich, you must trust God more than your wealth. Read 1 Timothy 6:17**. Why do you think so many of us put our trust in wealth more often than we put our trust in God? When has that been a tension in your life recently?
4. **HOPE DISPLAYED: When we give God our first... Read Genesis 4:3-5, Exodus 13:12; 22:29; and 23:19**. What principle stands out from these verses? Why is it significant to remember that tithing is not just giving God a tenth; tithing is giving God the **first** tenth? Follow up: What blessings have you experienced from tithing? What kind of adjustments do you need to make in order to make sure you are giving God the first and the best?
5. **HOPE DISPLAYED: When we give God our first and we give God our best... Read Malachi 1:13-14, Proverbs 3:9-10, and Colossians 1:18-20**. How should reflecting on God's character and example impact the ways we honor him with our wealth? What are areas besides money management where we are tempted to give God less than our best?
6. **HOPE DISPLAYED: When we give God our first and we give God our best we are giving God our trust**. Share a time when you chose to trust in God to provide rather than in money. What resulted from your trust in God? Follow up: **Read Matthew 6:33**. Is God truly first in your life? If not, what are you going to change to put Him first?
7. **Judge my theology by my generosity**. How is a person's generosity (or lack of generosity) a good example of what they actually believe about God? Follow up: What is one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?

