



FIRST

Baptist Church

Small Group Curriculum
April 13th, 2025
Apprentice

Getting-to-know-you questions:

For a new group:

What is your relationship with money—are you a spender or a saver?

For an established group:

Which possession would you have the hardest time giving up?

From the message:

- 1) Paul says that there were people in the church back then that saw faith as a means to financial gain... which is best understood as humanistic advancement (or man's human interests and pragmatic needs). How big an issue do you think that is today?
- 2) Paul says that these misplaced objectives are leading to people giving up the pursuit of godliness in favor of these lesser goals. How big an issue so you think that is for us today? Why?
- 3) In 1 Timothy 6 verses 6-10, Paul points to the problems of materialism. Why does he think materialism is so bad?
- 4) Do you agree?
- 5) In verse 6 Paul says Godliness which comes with contentment, is great gain. How does Paul define great gain?
- 6) What do you think of/what does it mean when Paul says we gain the "life that is in Christ"?

Read:

1 Timothy 6:6-8; Philippians 4:11-13;
1 Timothy 6:11-13

And Or

Watch:

The Book of 1 Timothy Charlie Dates & James Meeks;
Session 7, 1 Timothy 6
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/player/video/794338?session=800984&position=0>

Discuss from the readings:

- 1) What do you think will bring you more peace: contentment or getting everything you desire? Explain your answer.
- 2) In what ways does contentment free us from anxiety and greed?
- 3) When have you been tempted to believe that circumstances are an indicator of your status with God?
- 4) How could you be intentional about reminding yourself that God is good no matter what financial state you find yourself in?
- 5) What could it look like for you to stay true to God's word despite the conflict and opposition you face?
- 6) How can you remain committed to pursuing godliness when things get difficult?

*Questions taken from RNM study guide.

Discuss from the video:

- 1) What would happen if you lost all of your possessions today? Would your hope for the future or relationship with God change?
 - 2) In what ways do our possessions control our behavior and outlook on life?
 - 3) In what ways do you use money as a resource to advance the message of the gospel?
 - 4) In what ways does wealth promise to take care of us instead of God?
 - 5) In what ways can wealth never truly take God's place?
 - 6) What is your posture toward giving—does giving produce a positive or negative response in you?
- *Questions taken from RNM study guide

Prayer:

- 1) Pray that we wouldn't succumb to materialism and its deleterious effects.
- 2) Pray that we would pursue godliness that brings contentment and life.