

generous

Return on Investment

Discussion Guide

January 28, 2018

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Questions for Study

**Before discussing these questions, read through 1 Timothy 6:17-19 as a group.

1. In 1 Timothy 6, the Apostle Paul spends a lot of time talking about issues related to money. (To see this, you're encouraged to read the larger context of 1 Timothy 6:6-19.) Why can finances be such a difficult and sensitive topic to talk about?
2. Even though talking about finances can be sensitive, understanding a biblical approach to money is important. Why?
3. In 1 Timothy 6:17 Paul directs his attention to "those who are rich in this present world." Do you see yourself as rich? Why or why not?
4. See previous question. Now, compare yourself not just with people around your block, but with people around the globe. Does that change how you answer? Explain.
5. Think specifically about **generosity** in light of what you've read in 1 Timothy 6:17-19. From this passage, how would you define generosity?
6. Picture someone you'd describe as generous. What is it about this person that makes you think of them in this way? (In other words, what does a generous life actually look like?)
7. From what you read in 1 Timothy 6:17-19, what can keep you from being generous? In addition to what you just mentioned, are there other specific mindsets or obstacles that can make living generously difficult?
8. In 1 Timothy 6:19, what is the motivation Paul gives for living generously? (Spend a few minutes on this as a group: For example, what does Paul mean by this? Are there ways this could be misunderstood? How would you bottom line what Paul is getting at?)
9. Read the following two passages from the New Testament. What added insight do these passages give regarding **WHY** we should live generously?
 - Matthew 6:19-21
 - 2 Corinthians 8:1-9
10. Review what you've learned from 1 Timothy 6:17-19. What is one practical take-away from this passage you can apply to your life this week? How will you apply it?
11. **Challenge:** Memorize 1 Timothy 6:18-19: ¹⁸ Command [those who are rich in this present world] to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.