

SERMON NOTES: A LIFE LIVED WELL 5 - MONEY (Sunday 24 May 2015)

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 23:23 (NIV)

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices - mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law - justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

Proverbs 10:22 (NLT)

The blessing of the Lord makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

Ecclesiastes 5:10

The lover of money will not be satisfied with money

Proverbs 22:7

The borrower is the slave of the lender.

1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is a root to all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

Hebrews 13:5

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."

QUOTES

"Riches and abundance come hypocritically clad in sheep clothing, pretending to be security against anxieties, and they become then the object of anxiety. They secure a man against anxiety just as

well as a wolf who is put to tend the sheep."
- Kierkegaard

"Do not worry! Earthly goods deceive the human heart into believing that they give it security and freedom from worry. But in truth, they are what cause anxiety. The heart which clings to goods receives with them the choking burden of worry. Worry collects treasures, and treasures produce more worries. We desire to secure our lives with earthly goods; we want our worrying to make us worry-free, but the truth is the opposite. The chains which bind us to earthly goods, the clutches which hold the goods tight, are themselves worries." - Bonhoeffer

ADDITIONAL READING

What's Shaping You?: Giving (Podcast from Red Church 17 June 2012): <http://podcast.redchurch.org.au/e/re-podcast-whats-shaping-you-giving-sarah-deutscher/>

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

+ Is your budget reflecting a balance of giving, saving and spending - in that order?

Give

+ What are you giving? What *can* you give? What is the Spirit stirring in you to give?

Save

+ What are you saving? Are you responding to fear in the way you save? How can God's wisdom shape the way you save?

Spend

+ What are you spending? Is fear influencing the way you spend? How can you bring your spending under alignment with God's wisdom and freedom?