

## Financial Peace University

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.* 1 Peter 4:10

*And he said to them, Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.* Luke 12:15

### Money: Bane or Blessing

While Christian stewardship is not only (or even primarily) about money, the Bible does have a lot to say about the subject. In their book, *God and Money*, John Cortines and Gregory Baumer make the following statement, "...the Bible says a lot about money. The Bible includes approximately 500 verses on both prayer and faith, but more than 2,000 verses on money! Indeed, money is the subject of roughly 40 percent of Jesus' parables... God must consider the topic to be quite important to devote so much space to the subject."

The Bible tells us that wealth is a blessing and comes from God. (*You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth.* Deuteronomy 8:18) Wealth is to be used to provide for our needs and the needs of our neighbors.

The Bible also warns us about money and possessions. Jesus makes the important point that we cannot serve both God and money—even though many people try to do just that. Paul tells us that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil—to the point that it causes some to wander from the faith.

So...we must be careful and be on our guard when it comes to money just as Jesus cautions us. Our desire, as God's stewards, is to be faithful and fruitful when it comes to managing the money and possessions God entrusts to our care.



### Discussion Questions:

1. What is covetousness?
2. How is greed a subtle temptation?
3. Why do you suppose the Bible has so many verses about money and possessions?
4. Someone has said that money makes a wonderful servant but a terrible master. What do you suppose he/she meant?

### Stewardship Truth:

God's desire is that the money He entrusts to our care will be a blessing in our lives as we serve Him and our neighbor.