



## Blessed – Week Four: “Breaking the Spirit of Mammon”

### CONNECT

- What was your first Job? How much did you get paid?

### WORD

#### **1 Timothy 6:6-10**

*6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

### THOUGHT

Christians must not put their hope in this world's wealth. Money in this world means power and security. Those who have it often rely upon it. Arrogance or pride is a warning sign that one is taking oneself or one's wealth too seriously. With the way the world looks up to the affluent, it is easy to believe the illusion it projects and trust in one's accomplishments or acquisitions. But there is great danger in this. First, hope in wealth undermines trust in God. There is no clearer statement of this truth than Jesus' words: "You cannot serve both God and Money" (Matthew 6:24). Reliance on material goods or worldly status is antithetical to reliance on God.

### DISCUSSION

1. How is the life of one who follows verses 6-8 different from the one in verses 9-10? How can you distinguish between them?
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**2. What is the "great gain" in godliness with contentment?**

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**3. When have you struggled most financially? What did you do in this situation?**

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**4. Have you been tempted to be a lover of money? What happened? If you have not been tempted, how do you remain free from the love of money?**

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**5. Is there a difference between enjoying money and being a lover of money? How fine is the line between the two?**

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## **PERSONAL APPLICATION**

- This week, spend time understanding where you measure up according to the scripture in this week's study guide. Which side of the fence do you find yourself on?
- This week make action steps to prevent or end the love of money in your life and focus on godliness equaling contentment.

## **PRAYER**

- Pray this week asking God to free you from the love of money and instead fill you with His godliness that brings contentment.
- Whether spending, saving or investing God has an interest with what we do with the money given to us, pray for His guidance as you make decisions with money this week and for the future.