



OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE

The Root Problem and the Solution”

1 Timothy 6:6-10

April 14, 2013 A.M. Service

The Gain = Godliness + Contentment Vs 6

2 Corinthians 3:5, 9:8; Philippians 4:11-13;

Proverbs 30:8-9; Ecclesiastes 5:10

From Genesis to the Grave = The Dash Matters the Most Vs 7

Job 1:21; Ecclesiastes 5:15; Proverbs 27:24;

Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:15-21

The Guide = The Bare Minimum is Enough Vs 8

Matthew 6:24-33

The Guarantee of Greed Vs 9

Joshua 7:1-26 (Achan) Matthew 27:3-5 (Judas) Acts 5 (Ananias & Saphira) & Acts 8:20-23 (Simon)

- ✓ It Tempts
- ✓ It Controls
- ✓ It Drowns

Greed = Love of Money Vs 10

Philippians 3:18-19

- ✓ It's Seduction
- ✓ It's Sorrow

Some Helpful Resources to Consider

- *Revolutionary Generosity* by Kirk Nowery
- *360 Degree Stewardship* by Kirk Nowery
- *Your Money Counts* by Howard Dayton
- *The Eternity Portfolio* by Alan Gotthardt
- *Wealth Conundrum* by Ralph Doudera
- *Partners With God* by Bobby Eklund & Terry Austin
- *The 33 Laws of Stewardship* By Dave Sutherland & Kirk Nowery
- *Radical* by David Platt
- Crown Financial Resources
- Financial Peace University

Our Response:

1. Start Praying NOW about what your commitment to GROW will be during this OutLive Your Life Emphasis. How will you Connect? How will Serve? How will Grow? How will you Go?
2. Also start praying now about what you will GIVE to this 2 Year Emphasis that will allow us to continue GROW and add complete some much needed projects as well as bring on additional staff
3. Finally pray that others in our Church Family will also make commitments to GROW and GIVE as we all seek to OutLive Our Lives!!

OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE

“The Root Problem & Solution”

I Timothy 6:6-10

April 14, 2013 AM Service

The Gain = Godliness + Contentment Vs 6

The idea to be fulfilled, complete, satisfied, completely self-sufficient. Yet when we look around us we see anything but that! We see discontentment, disillusionment, dissatisfied, empty, lonely, and restless people everywhere! Yet Paul offers the solution and it is in stark contrast to what the world says, and even some who say that being spiritual or godliness is just something you do to gain wealth, power, prestige, etc. So Paul sets it right, well, yes it is a means to contentment. There's a great difference between seeking godliness as an end in itself or as a means of gain.

Contentment is one thing we all want and in fact Paul talked about it in [Philippians 4:11-13](#) that we covered on our ReFuel time on Wednesday nights. Godliness alone can give a man the sense that he lacks absolutely nothing. Imagine being so contented so fulfilled, satisfied, so complete and sufficient that you sense no lack, no need, no want. It's the greatest gain in the world. Nothing can compare! **Matthew Henry said “Christian contentment is worth more than all the wealth of the world!” Love of money and contentment are mutually exclusive.**

[2 Corinthians 3:5, 9:8; Proverbs 30:8-9; Ecclesiastes 5:10](#)

We intellectually accept the fact that money itself cannot bring us contentment but we are still hooked on the premise that it is in some way essential! Our preoccupation with material security and economic abundance makes this quite clear.

Notice the other word here – godliness – to be like God, Christlike.

From Genesis to the Grave = The Dash Matters the most Vs 7

You can't take it with you...

[Job 1:21; Ecclesiastes 5:15; Proverbs 27:24](#)

Shrouds have no pockets, hearses have no trailers. Interestingly they have new caskets with drawers where you can put things in them but we still aren't taking them with us!

ILLUS: **At a funeral of a rich man**, a mourner was thinking of the deceased's man real estate holdings, business interests, and personal

fortune and a friend asked, How much did he leave? The person responded: All of it!

Difference in Lot and Abraham [Matthew 6:19-21](#); [Luke 12:15-21](#)

ILLUS: Purchasing my Dad's tombstone – we want it to say something about his life – of course it will have his date of birth and his date of death, and really the key though and what matters the most is the smallest part yet it represents the total of our lives! It's the DASH! How are you living your life – what will the dash be in your life? I asked if we could put on it, Follower of Jesus Christ! What will the dash read on your tombstone?

The Guide = The Bare Minimum is Enough Vs 8 [Matthew 6:24-33](#)

The more money and possessions one has, the more complex life becomes. The basic necessities of life should be enough. It's not wrong to have possessions or material things, but instead our passion should be to use those things to love and glorify God. We should use the resources, not those resources using us! **William Barclay** "It is not that the Christian pleads for poverty. There is no special virtue in being poor, and no happiness in having a constant struggle to make ends meet. But Christianity does not plead for two things. It pleads for the realization that it is never in the power of things to bring happiness. It pleads for the concentration upon the things which are permanent, the things that a man can take with him when in the end he dies."

- (1) Believers must consciously realize that the Lord owns everything we have and we are merely stewards of it.
- (2) We must evaluate our purchases in light of how it would advance the kingdom of God or make our ministry effective
- (3) We must have a thankful heart for what He has given us
- (4) We must learn to distinguish our needs from our wants
- (5) We must discipline ourselves to spend less than we make. Not putting things on credit, straps us so we can't give - debt
- (6) We must give sacrificially to the Lord.

Henry David Thoreau, the naturalist of the 1800 s, reminded us that a man is wealthy in proportion to the number of things he can afford to do without. We are so glutted with luxuries that we have forgotten how to enjoy our necessities.

The Guarantee of Greed Vs 9

Joshua 7:1-26 (Achan) Matthew 27:3-5 (Judas) & Acts 5 (Ananias & Saphira) & Acts 8:20-23 (Simon)

Those who want to be rich – it is a word that refers to deliberate thought and actions, a calculated desire and passion. It's the determination to get wealth at all costs. Getting wealth in the natural cause of events is neither moral or immoral.

Money can buy pleasure, comfort and elegance, but not happiness!

✓ It Tempts & Traps

To do things we wouldn't normally do, to compromise our convictions, to wink at things that we shouldn't to turn a blind eye, to push aside the Lord, family and friends. It is a sin just like many others, Satan promises one thing, but in reality it only traps us and it's up controlling us instead of us controlling it!

Can buy anything you want, go wherever you want, and do just about anything you want to do – sounds great doesn't it, sounds like easy street, contentment but it's a temptation and a trap!

✓ It Controls

We pursue foolish things, the latest name brands and fashion the latest toys or gadgets. **ILLUS: My grandfather – computer to have one just in case somebody asked if I had one.** We will sin to get it if we go too far down the path!

✓ It Drowns

It brings destruction, it drags us to the bottom, we sink and are submerged and it ruins us! Instead of the promise of peace and rest. It consumes us and the pursuit of it makes us drown in it!

Accumulating wealth can be a curse rather than a blessing. It can remove us from a place of being truly dependent on the Lord and it's management requires more and more of our time and energy.

Greed = Love of Money Vs 10

Philippians 3:18-19

ILLUS: Tree – Maple that roots popped up little trees everywhere!!

Didn't know there were roots there until the little trees popped up. The Money is not the problem, it's the love of it. The problem is not the roots, but the trees that sprouted forth.

Unchecked desire for money leads to the love of money.

Money itself is not a bad thing, it is not the root cause, the root problem is the love of money which brings the three things we just talked about.

How much is enough? Where do we draw the line in the sand and say, This is all I need. Where there is no line, the love of money becomes the dominant passion and pursuit.

“Money in itself is neither good or bad; it is simply dangerous in that the love of it may become bad. With money man can do much good; and with money he can do much evil. With money a man can selfishly serve his own desires; and with money he can generously answer the cry of his neighbor’s need. With money a man can buy his way to the forbidden things and facilitated the path of wrong-doing; and with money he can make it easier for someone else to live as God mean him to live. Money is not evil, but it is a great responsibility.” William Barclay

✓ **It’s Seduction**

It causes us to wander away from the faith, the focus get’s changed and the pursuit of things of the world become more important than the pursuit of the Word and the Savior! Notice too it’s subtle, it’s not a jump off a cliff, it is slowly and surely that we ease away from the Lord. Our money will become our god if we are not careful!

✓ **It’s Sorrow**

Barbara Hutton (Woolworth heiress who the media used to call the poor little rich girl and Howard Hughes, the billionaire who loved on junk food and was terrified of contracting a disease from casual contact with a passerby and died as a recluse. John D. Rockefeller “I have made many millions, but they have brought me no happiness.” Cornelius Vanderbilt “The care of millions is too great a load...there is no pleasure in it.” John Jacob Astor described himself as “the most miserable man on earth.” Henry Ford once remarked, “I was happier doing mechanic’s work” And Rockefeller again, “The poorest man I know is the man who nothing but money!”

Closing ILLUS: C.T. Studd