



Living Truth

Possessive Possessions

Luke 12:15

Ecclesiastes 1:9, 1 Timothy 6:6-8, 10

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Jeremiah 9:23-24

Three Antidotes to Greed.

1. Be Content. *Hebrews 13:5-6, 1 Timothy 6:6-8*

Does this describe you? _____

2. Put your treasure in God. *Luke 12:32-34, Luke 12:20-21*

What do you value most in this world? _____

3. Be Generous. *Mark 12:41-44, 1 Timothy 6:17-19*

Would Jesus use you as an example for this? _____

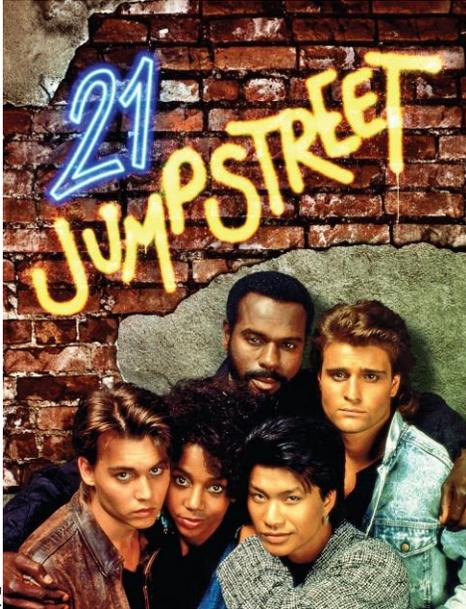
Philippians 4:11-13, 19

How much is God worth to you?

How rich do you think you should be toward your God?

Slides

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Luke 12:15



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Ecclesiastes 1:9 NLT History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new.

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Luke 12:15 NASB Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions." ESV 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."

"Abundance" means to be in excess.

"Covetousness" or greed, means "to hold more".

"Take care" (take heed): to stare at.

"Beware" (be on your guard): to watch, avoid.

Luke 12:15 DV Then Jesus said to them, "Beware, be on your guard, watch out for and avoid, against every form of greed, of every idea of trying to hold more and more and more. For not even when one has an abundance, when we have everything in excess, does his life consist of his possessions, does life equal more stuff."

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"he who dies with the most toys wins."

"he who has the most toys dies"

1 Timothy 6:6-8 NLT Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth.⁷ After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. ⁸ So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

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Money is the root of all evil?

1 Timothy 6:10 NLT For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

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2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 CSB Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister who is idle and does not live according to the tradition received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you should imitate us: We were not idle among you; ⁸ we did not eat anyone's food free of charge; instead, we labored and toiled, working night and day, so that we would not be a burden to any of you. ⁹ It is not that we don't have the right to support, but we did it to make ourselves an example to you so that you would imitate us. ¹⁰ In fact, when we were with you, this is what we commanded you: "If anyone isn't willing to work, he should not eat."¹¹ For we hear that there are some among you who are idle. They are not busy but busybodies. ¹² Now we command and exhort such people by the Lord Jesus Christ to work quietly and provide for themselves. ¹³ But as for you, brothers and sisters, do not grow weary in doing good.

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Jeremiah 9:23-24 NLT This is what the Lord says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. ²⁴ But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the Lord, have spoken!"

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Hebrews 13:5-6 NASB Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,"⁶ so that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?"

Three Antidotes to Greed

1. Be Content.

1 Timothy 6:6-8 ESV But godliness with contentment is great gain,⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Luke 12:32-34 NLT "So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom."³³ "Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it."³⁴ Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

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Three Antidotes to Greed

2. Put your treasure in God.

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Luke 12:20-21 NLT "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'"²¹ "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

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Mark 12:41-44 NLT Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts.⁴² Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins.⁴³ Jesus called His disciples to Him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions."⁴⁴ For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on."

Three Antidotes to Greed

3. Be Generous.

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1 Timothy 6:17-19 NLT Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.¹⁸ Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in

good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.¹⁹ By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

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Philippians 4:11-13 NLT Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have.¹² I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little.¹³ For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:19 NLT And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from His glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

How much is God worth to you?

How rich do you think you should be toward your God?

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