

Financial Well-Being

The Bible has a lot to say about money, yet often the church has seemingly little to say. While many aspects of our wholeness and well-being are very personal, financial healthy and its related factors can at times define who we are and what we are worth in a way that makes free discussion difficult.

One thing we know from Ecclesiastes 5:10a is that: *He who loves money will not be satisfied with money*. Further in Matthew 6:24, we are reminded that: *No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.*

Yet, the Bible is also clear that it is not money in and of itself that is the issue *for it is he who gives you power to get wealth* (Deuteronomy 8::18). Proverbs 30:24-25 even counsels that there is wisdom in building wealth.

So how do we approach our financial well-being in a healthy way? We do this by seeking to remain grateful to the Lord and satisfied with His blessings. All the while, we are able to seek to build our wealth that we might be a blessing to our families and others. For Deuteronomy 15:7b instructs us that *you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother*. We are blessed that we might bless others in Christ's name.

Thoughts for Reflection

- 1. In what ways do you hold on too tightly to the financial blessings of God?
- 2. If you were able to bless someone or some organization financially how would you ideally like to do so?
- 3. Strategically, what decisions can you make today that might impact your ability to bless someone as identified above?