

DISCUSSION GUIDE

HOW TO BE GOOD AT BEING RICH

1 Timothy — Week 24

ICEBREAKER: What event in your life has brought about the greatest life-change?

OVERVIEW: Many people are good at *getting* rich, but very few are good at *being* rich. In America most people are rich compared to the rest of the world, even if we don't feel like it. Most of us have more than enough. So how do you glorify God if you are rich? In this discussion we will go deeper with the study of 1 Timothy 6:17-19 to learn how to handle our riches in a way that doesn't hurt our spiritual lives, but instead makes us more useful to God, and increases the size of our heavenly reward.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read Luke 12:13-21.
 - What did the rich man in the story do wrong?
 - What should he have done differently?
 - Verse 15 says, "Watch out and be on guard against all greed...." *Greed is the assumption that the extra is for my consumption.* Why does Jesus give such a serious warning against greed? What are some ways that we can watch out and be on guard against all greed?
 - What does it mean that "one's life is not in the abundance of his possessions (v. 15)"?
 - What does it mean to be "rich toward God (v. 21)"? What are some ways that you can become rich toward God?

3. Read 1 Timothy 6:17. The first command for rich people is "Don't be arrogant." Why is arrogance a serious temptation for rich people? What can you do to avoid arrogance?
4. The second command for rich people is "Don't depend on money for happiness (see v. 17)." How do you know if you are depending on money for happiness? How can you make sure that you are depending on God for happiness instead?
5. Read 1 Timothy 6:18-19. The third command for rich people is to "Do good" by being rich in good works, and by being generous, willing to share. How do you need to grow in the area of good works? In the area of generosity?
6. Read Luke 12:33. Try to imagine the current amount of your heavenly treasure, the result of all the good that you've done in this life for God. Have you been as focused on eternity as you need to be? Explain. What steps do you need to take to increase the size of your heavenly reward?

The Last Word: "You can't take it with you—but you can send it on ahead." Randy Alcorn