

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Beware of Money The Gospel of Mark - Week 47

ICEBREAKER: Is your “glass” usually half full or half empty? Why?

OVERVIEW: God has a wonderful plan for your life. This plan includes eternal life, abundant life, peace, joy, wisdom, healthy relationships, purpose and significance, and so much more. But there’s an obstacle that every Christian must face. And this obstacle has the potential to block you from everything God wants for you — even eternal life. The obstacle is money. In this discussion we will go deeper with overcoming the obstacle of money and grow in Biblical stewardship.

1. **Read Mark 10:17-31.** 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 1 Timothy 6:6-10.**
 - a. Refer to verse 6. What is contentment? Why is it a great gain?
 - b. Refer to verse 9. Is it wrong to make it your goal to be rich? Explain.
 - c. Refer to verse 9. How does wanting to be rich plunge people into ruin and destruction?
 - d. Refer to verse 10. What is the love of money?
 - e. How is the love of money the root of all kinds of evil?
 - f. How do we cultivate contentment?

3. Mark 10:22 has been called the saddest verse in the Bible. The Rich Young Ruler chose money over eternal life. Why is money such a big spiritual obstacle for many people?

4. In Mark 10:25 Jesus said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God. Why is it so hard for a rich person to be fully devoted to Christ?

5. The sermon mentioned five signs that money may be blocking you from God’s plan for your life. What were they, and can you think of any others?

6. Do any of the five signs describe you? If so, what do you need to do to grow in this area?

7. If you are a tither, tell your story of how you came take that spiritual step.

8. If you are a tither, describe how God has used tithing to benefit your spiritual life.

The Last Word: You can’t out-give God.