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Valley Church

September 8 & 11, 2022
Five Lies About Money

Introduction: Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Five Lies to Confront About Money:

Lie #1 – God doesn't _____ my money, so He doesn't _____ how I manage it

Lie #2 – God _____ that I _____ to Him financially

1 Cor. 9:13-14 TLB – Paul alludes to tithing in support of OT priests

2 Cor. 8:7 – Paul speaks of giving as a "grace" to excel in

Lie #3 – God doesn't care about the _____, only the _____ behind it

Luke 21:3-4 – Jesus commends sacrificial giving

2 Cor. 8:1-5 – Paul marvels at the sacrificial generosity of the

Macedonian churches, who were known for their financial poverty

1 Cor. 16:1-4 – Paul encourages planned, prayerful giving

2 Cor. 9:7 – Paul emphasizes cheerful giving

Two blessings of giving: Greater joy in obedience to God & greater freedom from materialism's control

Lie #4 – I can _____ in my spiritual walk without _____ financially

Matt. 6:21 – A direct link between our money and our priorities

1 Tim. 6:10 – Money can control and lead into many evils

Gen. 22:14 – God is "Jehovah-Jireh" our Provider

Lie #5 – I don't have enough _____ to give _____

Acts 20:35 – It is a greater blessing to give than receive

Practical Application:

- 1) _____ – Ask God for the joy and courage to begin making changes that will enable you to give sacrificially
- 2) _____ – Obey God by developing a plan for whatever you need to cut in order to give to His Kingdom financially
- 3) _____ – Set aside that amount in a regular, disciplined way to be given to the advance of the gospel through His Church (1 Cor. 16:1-2)

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS OR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. Why do you think talking about money is seen as such a taboo issue for some Christians, especially in light of the fact that the Bible addresses it so frequently?

Ponderings:

2. With consumer debt on a continual rise in America, what does this reveal about the emotional and spiritual sickness of our culture?
3. Of all things Jesus could have linked as tangible, measurable indicators of our real priorities in life, why do you think He chose money (i.e. "treasure")? (See Matt. 6:21)
4. As a group, read through the passages listed under the points of the message outline and try to describe in your own words how those principles might be applied today...
5. How is a grace-filled life directly reflected by generosity? Try to be as specific as possible, offering examples if helpful...
6. Of the five lies exposed in the weekend message, which have you personally wrestled with the most in your journey with Jesus? Which have you personally grown to overcome or experience greater victory over?

Promptings:

7. Are you willing to begin trusting God in greater ways this week than you did last week? How can the suggested "Pray/Plan/Portion" approach assist in that specifically?