



Everyday
Discipleship

The background of the slide features a collage of US dollar bills, including \$10 and \$100 denominations, rendered in a light, semi-transparent blue color. This collage is set against a solid, darker blue background that covers the entire slide.

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MONEY AND POSSESSIONS

**HOW MUCH MONEY DO
YOU NEED TO BE CONTENT?**

Our economic situation

- Inflation
- Interest rates
- Groceries
- Housing crisis

Money...

Money...

- What we pursue

Money...

- What we pursue
- Forms identity

Money...

- What we pursue
- Forms identity
- Create conflicts

Money...

- What we pursue
- Forms identity
- Create conflicts
- Leads to anxiety

"Wealth is like a viper, which is harmless if a man knows how to take hold of it; but if he does not, it will twine round his hand and bite him."

Clement of Alexandria

1. PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL

Luke 12:13-21

Luke 12:13-18

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

Luke 12:18-21

“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’”

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’”

“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

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Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.

MISPLACED SECURITY

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Proverbs 30:7-9

“Two things I ask of you, Lord;
do not refuse me before I die:

Keep falsehood and lies far from me;
**give me neither poverty nor riches,
but give me only my daily bread.**

Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you
and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’

Or I may become poor and steal,
and so dishonor the name of my God.

2. PARABLE OF SOWER

Mark 4:13-20

Mark 4:13-17

Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

Mark 4:18-20

Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

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**THE DECEITFULNESS OF
WEALTH CHOKES OUR
SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

Why is wealth deceitful?

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- It promises **comfort**, but can lead to greater anxiety.
- It promises **happiness**, but can lead to misery.

MISGUIDED DESIRES

1 Timothy 6:3-10

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Pursuing **godliness with contentment** yields a far better overall return on investment (ROI) than pursuing wealth and riches.

3. STORE TREASURES IN HEAVEN

Matthew 6:19-21

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Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Earthly VS Eternal

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- Earthly treasures can be **stolen**, eternal treasures cannot
- Earthly treasures **lose value**, eternal treasures never lose value.
- Earthly treasures are **temporary**, eternal treasures are forever.

MISALIGNED VALUES

**STORING UP ETERNAL
TREASURES WITH YOUR
EARTHLY TREASURES**

EXPENSES

INCOME



EXPENSES

———— Living above our means

INCOME



EXPENSES

———— Living above our means

INCOME

————

————

Living at our means

EXPENSES

———— Living above our means

———— Living at our means

———— Living below our means

INCOME

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