

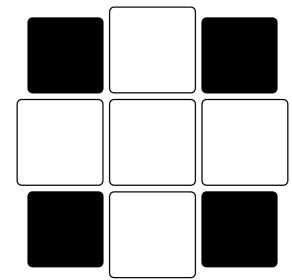
# Wealth That Does Good

Scripture: James 5:1–6

Series: **God and Money**

Sunday, May 11, 2014

Corroborating Texts: Romans 5:8; Ephesians 5:1–2; 1 Timothy 6:17–19;  
1 John 3:16–18; 4:7–21



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## Overview

Money is a gift to be used for good. It is not a god to be pursued and worshipped. We should be rebuked if we have gained wealth through wickedness. We should be encouraged to share and be generous with our wealth. What you do with your money today indicates your heart condition.

## Discussion Questions

1. Who are some of the villains of money? How has that shaped what we think about those who have money? Is it fundamentally wrong to have wealth? Why or why not?
2. How are we judged for our attainment of wealth? [Motive and means] What are the wrong motives for attaining wealth? What are examples of ill means for gaining wealth?
3. Why do people attain wealth out of ill motives and means? What are they trying to gain? What will ultimately happen to their wealth (v. 2–3)? What will happen to them?
4. People blame money. What should we blame? [Our hearts] If our hearts are the real problem, then money functions like the law. It shows everyone the condition of our heart. If you're honest, what is the condition of your heart when it comes to money and wealth?
5. Why do we trust in money? What are some ways we trust in money? How do we gauge whether we've put our trust in money or in God? What are indicators of this sort of idolatry?
6. A major threat to generosity is selfishness. Sharing is not natural because of our fallen condition. How do we observe this truth in both Scripture and our lives? [Share stories of selfishness from Scripture. Share stories of your own selfishness or your children's.] How is this fallen condition overcome? [Go to the gospel here.]
7. How does the gospel transform how we look at and use our resources? [Discuss the spiritual riches found in Christ. Discuss how the love of Christ transforms our love and generosity to others. Look at Romans 5:8; Ephesians. 5:1–2; 1 John 4:7–21 for help.] How does this change the way we look at our wealth?
8. How can we use our money for God's good? Brainstorm ideas of how the resources God has entrusted to you can be leveraged for his work.