

Today's Culture: Materialism

"Human desires are like the world of the dead – there is always room for more." – Prov. 27:20

Three misconceptions that are found in our culture:

Misconception #1: _____.

"He who loves money shall never have enough. The foolishness of thinking that wealth brings happiness! The more you have, the more you spend." – Luke 8:14

"Having enough is nowhere near as much fun as I thought it was going to be when I didn't have any." – Andy Rooney

"When I first started working, I used to dream of the day I would earn the salary I am now starving on."

Misconception #2: _____.

"Be on your guard against greed in any shape or form. For a man's real life in no way depends on the number of his possessions." – Luke 12:15

Misconception #3: _____.

"The rich man thinks of his wealth as an impregnable defense, a high wall of safety. What a dreamer!" – Proverbs 18:11

"Be wise enough not to wear yourself out trying to get rich. Your money can be gone in a flash." – Proverbs 23:4-5 (GNT)

"If I put my trust in money, if my happiness depends on wealth it would mean that I have denied the God of heaven." – Job 31:24,28

How do I live in a consumer driven culture? Four ways to break materialism:

Point #1: _____.

"We do not dare classify or compare ourselves it is not wise." – 2 Corinthians 10:12

"When we long to be rich, we're a prey to temptation. We get trapped into all sorts of foolish and dangerous ambitions which eventually plunge us into ruin." – 1 Timothy 6:9

Point #2: _____.

“It is better to be satisfied with what you have than to always be wanting something else.” – Ecclesiastes 6:9

“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have.” – Heb.13:5

Two ways to have enough: get more or desire less.

Point #3: _____.

“The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first.” – Deuteronomy 14:23

“Tell those who are rich not to be proud and not to trust in their money which will soon be gone. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should give happily to those in need always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this, they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven. It is the only safe investment for eternity.” – 1 Tim. 6:17-19

Point #4: _____.

“Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.” – Colossians 3:2

“The man who hears the message, but allows the cares of this world and his longing for money choke out God’s word, does less and less for God.” – Matthew 13:22

“I have concluded that the accumulation of wealth even if I could achieve it is an insufficient reason for living. When I reach the end of my days, a moment or two from now, I must look backwards on something more meaningful than the pursuit of houses and lands and machines and stocks and bonds. Nor is fame any lasting benefit. I will consider my earthly existence to have been wasted unless I can recall a loving family, consistent investment in the lives of people, and an earnest attempt to serve God who made me.” – Dr. James Dobson

“No one can serve two masters. You cannot serve both God and money.” – Matthew 6:24

Take a moment to reflect:

What or Who will determine my lifestyle?

Will my lifestyle be determined by Christ?

Will my lifestyle be determined by culture?

Reflect: How will you apply this teaching? What really stood out to you in this message?
