

### Questions (cont.)

9. Is it a greater temptation for you to find your worth or your security in money? Why?
10. What do you hope to learn/gain from this series?

# THE MONEY TRAP

“Money is only a tool. It will take you wherever you wish, but it will not replace you as the driver.” –Ayn Rand

“If you want to feel rich, just count the things you have that money can't buy.” –old proverb

“Don't tell me where your priorities are. Show me where you spend your money and I'll tell you what they are.” –James W. Frick

Money is a \_\_\_\_\_.

- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ issue.

### Money in the Bible:

- Israel was to pay attention to \_\_\_\_\_. (Isaiah 1:21-23)
- Israel was to seek \_\_\_\_\_, rather than idle worship. (Isaiah 58:6-8)
- Jesus tells us to store up \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven. (Matthew 6:19-21)
- James says “true religion” cares for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (James 1:27)

## 1 Timothy 6:6-10

The love of money is a \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ : *any device, strategy, trick, or the like for catching a person unawares.*

### Three Money Traps:

1. We don't \_\_\_\_\_ the tool.

"If you cut yourself, it's not the knife's fault."

2. We confuse the tool with the \_\_\_\_\_.

- The purpose of life: \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt 22:39-42)

**Idol:** when we take something secondary and make it \_\_\_\_\_.

Money becomes an idol when...

- We find our \_\_\_\_\_ in money.
- We find our \_\_\_\_\_ in money.

3. We use it as a way to build our \_\_\_\_\_. (Mt 6:33)

### Avoiding the money trap:

1. Everything belongs to God.
2. God has entrusted me with His money as a tool for His Kingdom.
3. He wants to provide for not just my needs, but everyone's needs.
4. God expects me to be purposeful with what I have.

### Questions for further study and reflection:

1. Why do you think the Bible talks so much about money and economic issues?
2. Do you think the Church and Christians in general live consistently with the economic principles of Scripture? (see Isaiah 1:21-23, Isaiah 58:6-8, Matthew 6:19-21, Luke 12:14, James 1:27, 2:15-16, etc.)
3. What is "contentment?" What is the opposite of contentment?
4. How do you know if you're content?
5. In what ways do people not respect the "tool" of money? Has this been true for you?
6. In what ways do people confuse the tool with the goal or purpose? Has this been true for you?
7. How does treating money as God's money change how we use it? What specific things would this change about how you handle money?
8. In your experience, are you happier when you have more money?