

# Journey CHURCH

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## Leader Guide Session 10

### Leader Notes:

1. Money is dangerous.
2. The heart is deceptive.
3. A love of money is deadly.
4. Only the gospel can deliver us.

This environment sows into us the perpetual desire to get and to keep and to have, and it can never satisfy us.

Money is so dangerous because you have trusted in the wrong thing.

Money and what we do with it and the measure at which we desire it reveal our heart more than our mouths and actions combined.

We use our wealth to create safety and create a shield to buffer us from life's anxieties.

You believe you can somehow save and plan and operate in such a way that your future is secure.

We are eternal, so the temporary can never satisfy.

The wealthy whose earnest desire is just to accumulate more wealth will be far more prone to oppress and to build systems that take advantage of the poor than those who are content.

The gospel is the generosity of God flowing out of the Godhead, and it grants to us a new identity that serves as a buffer against the barrage of toxicity that our culture throws at us.

God is on a mission, and we have been invited into that mission. We have not just been saved from, but we've been saved to.

We need to grow in financial wisdom. We have to pursue contentment. Be generous.

## Discussion

1) What was your first reaction when you realized that we'll talk about money in this session? Why do you think you reacted that way? Why is money a sensitive subject for most people?

2) Scripture takes the subject of money very seriously. What we do with money and the degree to which we desire it may reveal our hearts more than our words and actions combined.

- How does money offer a way to look into our hearts?

3) Everyone in this room is among the wealthiest people on the planet. This wealth is a tremendous blessing, but it also comes with great responsibility and risk. Read James 5:1-6.

- How would you describe the emotional tone of these verses?
- Why do you think the message warrants such emotion?
- Describe the situation being addressed in these verses.
- How might we be prone to misunderstand James's message?
- What's actually being condemned here?
- What isn't being condemned?

4) Let's discuss the four points Matt used to summarize this text and biblical wisdom about money.

- Money is dangerous. What's the distinction between money being dangerous and money being bad? How did the comparison to fire help clarify this point?

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- The heart is deceptive. Why is this true not only for money but also for every area of our lives?
- A love of money is deadly. Why is discontentment toxic for our souls?
- Only the gospel can deliver us. How do we find contentment in the gospel? How do we find generosity at the heart of the gospel?

5) Matt explained that he and his wife, Lauren, have a generosity line item that's a fun, disciplined way to develop a healthy intentionality in the way they use their money. He also mentioned his personal conviction about his local church, gospel ministry, and giving and living missionally.

- How might these examples help you examine your own finances?
- What has proved effective or helpful in your life for developing a godly heart and wise habits in regard to your finances?
- What remaining questions or comments do you have about the video teaching or discussion?
- What was challenging, convicting, encouraging, or timely for your current circumstances?

Close in prayer.