

## City Church - Proverbs and possessions

### **A. Worship God not your wealth – how to view your money**

*Proverbs 15:16 – Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil.*

**How can I tell if I'm worshipping God with my wealth?**

#### **1. We won't want too much or too little –**

*Proverbs 30:8 - 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 dishonour the name of my God.*

*Proverbs 10:15 – The wealth of the rich is their fortified city, but poverty is the ruin of the poor.*

*Proverbs 22:2 - Rich and poor have this in common: The LORD is the maker of them all.*

#### **2. We will give our firstfruits to God**

*Proverbs 3:9 - Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.*

#### **3. We will put relationships ahead of money**

*Proverbs 15:17 – Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened calf with hatred.*

#### **4. Our righteousness will matter more than our money**

*Proverbs 11:4 Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.*

*Proverbs 11:28 – Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.*

*Prov. 28:6 – Better a poor man whose walk is blameless than a rich man whose ways are perverse.*

### **How can I tell if I'm worshipping money as my god?**

How would you know that money was something that you were treating as your god?

#### **1. You're got to get rich at any cost!**

*Proverbs 23:4 – Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint.*

*Proverbs 12:11 – He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgement.*

## **2. You've got to look rich at any cost.**

*Proverbs 13:7 - One man pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth*

## **3. You can't be generous to others**

*Proverbs 11:24 - One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.*

# **B. Worship God with your wealth - what to do with your money?**

## **1. Work hard to earn it**

*Proverbs 10:4-5 – Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth. He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.*

## **2. Work hard to keep it**

*Proverbs 10:15 – The wealth of the rich is their fortified city, but poverty is the ruin of the poor.*

*Proverbs 13:11 - Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow.*

*Proverbs 21:17 – He who loves pleasure will become poor; whoever loves wine and oil will never be rich.*

## **3. Work hard to be a provider for others not a drain on others**

*Proverbs 24:27 - Finish your outdoor work, and get your fields ready; after that, build your house.*

*Proverbs 13:22 – A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.*

## **4. Work hard to be generous to others**

*Proverbs 11:24-25 – One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.*

*Prov. 19:17 - He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done.*

## **Conclusion:**

*Proverbs 3:9-10 – Honour the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.*