**Life Team Notes – Week of 3-1-20 Different Joy**

* Do you have any hobbies?
* What is something that brings you a great amount of happiness? Why?
* What would you like to accomplish in this life?
* What will happen to you if you don’t have a happy ending?
* What if you don’t get that job, get married, have kids, etc?
* Will you live in despair the rest of your life?
* What if you get what you want and it’s not that fun?
* What if you get married, kids, car, career, house, stuff and still discontent?
* What if you run out of diversions? Toys, hobbies, books, activities, sports, internet, drugs, entertainment
* What would you say motivates you more than anything else?
* Sunday, we talked about the myth of happiness, thinking back to Sunday was there anything that challenged, encouraged, or caught your attention?

**The Lies of Materialism**

**1. Having more will make me happy**

**Ecclesiastes 6:9**

* Can things bring happiness? Yes / Does it last? Why?
* So, what is needed? More and more

**2. Having more will make me feel important**

**Luke 12:15**

* Why do we sometimes buy things we don't need with money we don't have? Perhaps to impress people
* Does having more things make us more important? But it does make us emptier and more broke.

**3. Having more will make me feel secure**

**Proverbs 18:11, Job 31:24,28**

The more you have can actually make you feel the more insecure because you have more to worry about.

**4. Having more means God is blessing me**

Money & processions have no connection to a person’s spiritual walk. There are wealthy corrupt people and extremely poor godly people. And vice versa.

**1 Timothy 6:6-9**

Plunge = to drown. Material possessions make horrible flotation devices. Stuff we want will sink us, they take us under

* Do you think God is anti-ownership?

Jesus nor the writers of Scripture are anti-ownership or anti-money

God set it up for us to manage material possessions

**1 Timothy 9:10-12**

**Realize: Money is not evil – love of money is.** Money/ possessions are neutral. They are to be used not loved. God says use it all for his glory. If you love money, you'll use people. If you love people you use money

**The Antidote for Materialism (4 things mentioned in 1 Tim 6)**

* **Live – Grateful (Thankfulness sets the soul free)**

**Romans 1:21, Heb 12:15, James 1:17, Ecclesiastes 6:9, Ephesians 5:20**

**Gratefulness / thankfulness acknowledges the giver of good things**

* What happens when we live without gratitude? We develop a victim mentality.
* **Live – Content (Contentment is the fruit of gratitude)**

**1 Timothy 6:6, Hebrews 13:5**

* Does that mean we never save money or ever try to have something?
* What is biblical contentment?
  + **Contentment = Jesus is enough**

Contentment means = I can cope with it – even if I’m not loving it!

How? Because He saw the bigger picture of eternity

**Philippians 4:11-13**

* What dos that verse mean to you? It means, if you are flat broke - Jesus is enough. With Jesus - I can endure anything. Contentment is learning to live in his will in your current circumstance.
* **Live - Generous (This breaks the hold of materialism off our life)**

**1 Timothy 6:17-18, Luke 12:48**

* How can a person according to this verse truly live a regret free life?

A no regret life is a Generous Life – focusing on what matters

* **Live – with eternity in mind (Invest in eternity)**

**1 Timothy 6:12, Colossians 3:2, Matthew 13:22**

Never confuse making a living with making a life

What you live for is much more important than what you live on.

* How can a person live with eternity in mind?

**Understand what you’re ultimately looking for in all the stuff!**

**You’re looking for meaning, purpose - you’re looking for the presence of God.**

**Prayer:**

* God, teach me to learn to be satisfied with what I have rather than always be wanting something else.
* God teach me to be grateful for all you have given me.
* God teach me to rely on you God – and to find contentment with you.

**Take Home**

Luke 18:18-30 - Sad story of a man who like us all – was rich. His wealth left him empty - He had tried religion… but was still empty. Jesus told him - sell and give it all away - and follow me... unwilling to let go of his stuff - He walked away sad.

* Had everything but was still unhappy. What is God asking from you?

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**2. Having more will make me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Luke 12:15

**3. Having more will make me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Proverbs 18:11, Job 31:24,28

**4. Having more means God is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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* + Contentment = Jesus is enough
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