Money is the Root of All Evil

Read: 1 Timothy 6:3-10

Main idea: God wants us to find true contentment in Him above everything that this world offers because He is the only one that can bring us true fulfillment instead of emptiness and longing.

Key Verses: "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." **(6:10 ESV)**

Key Principles:

- One of the greatest obstacles for us to find contentment is pride because we always feel like we know what's best for us.
- Pride causes us to seek out unnecessary controversies when dealing with other people who also struggle with pride.
- No matter how successful we become in this world, we cannot take any of it with us to eternity.
- We must seek after the things of God and be about building His kingdom if we truly want to find contentment and make an eternal difference (Matthew 6:33).
- The temptations of this world take the good things that God has given to us and elevate them to positions of idolatry.
- Idolatry leads to captivity, a lack of purpose and causes us to flee from the only one who can truly bring us fulfillment and contentment.

Discussion:

- 1. What do you remember being taught about the subject of money in the church? If you didn't grow up in church, what were you taught in your family?
- 2. Why is the focus of this passage of scripture on our cravings and pride more than it is on money? What difference does that make?
- 3. Why do you think pride leads to loving power and possessions more than God? Do you think believers that fall into this trap believe they are idolators? Why?
- 4. Are money and power bad? Why?
- 5. Why do you think the craving of the things of this world will lead people into sin and away from the faith? What does that mean for their salvation?
- 6. How can we use this often misunderstood verse to share the gospel with someone who does not yet believe?

Praver:

- Pray that God would reveal anything that you cling to other than Him.
- Pray:
 - o That we would be overwhelmed by the love of God this week and beyond.
 - That we would find our contentment in our relationship with God through Jesus.
 - o That we would actively search for ways to be helpful to others this week.

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I.	Avoid the sin of <u>unhealthy</u> <u>pride</u> .		6:3-5
	1.	Pride will reject healthy doctrine.	6:3
	2.	Pride will <u>lead</u> to empty <u>thinking</u> .	6:4-5
III.	Avoid the sin of <u>ungodly</u> <u>ambition</u> .		6:6-8
	1.	Be content in who you are in Christ.	6:6
	2.	Be content in what you have from Christ.	6:7-8
IV.	We must avoid the sin of unbridled greed.		6:9-10
	1.	Greed will destroy you.	6:9
	2.	Greed will <u>deceive</u> you.	6:10
	3.	Greed will <u>disappoint</u> you.	6:10

NEXT WEEK: Hate the Sin, Love the Sinner Jude 1:17-23