

Applying It In My LifeGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Which of these do you have to watch out for most in your life:

- a. *Hoarding money uselessly? (5:2-3)*
- b. *Acquiring riches unjustly? (5:4)*
- c. *Spending wealth self-indulgently? (5:5)*
- d. *Wielding financial power abusively? (5:6)*

What needs to change in your view of wealth and how to handle it?

2. How have you seen the generosity of the gospel affect your heart?

What are some ways you can put this sort of generosity into practice?

3. How can you use money to “lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven”?

ACTIVE FAITH ACTION STEP | WEEK 09

Choose to be generous this week to a person, church or organization simply because God has been generous with you in Christ Jesus!

Prayer TimeGroup time - 15 minutes

Thank God for the warnings He gives against loving wealth and the ways of this world. Ask for His Spirit to guard your heart against using people to accumulate money and pray that God would show you how to use money in order to accumulate people for His kingdom.

A Wealth of Problems

James 5:1-6

How does an active faith handle wealth?

1. Warnings on Wealth

James 5:1-6

2. Wisdom on Wealth

Prov 6; 13; Luke 12; 16; Matt 6

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of March 19, 2017

Getting StartedGroup time - 20 minutes

1. What are some things on your mental list to buy if “you just had enough money”?
2. Why do you think God has you in your particular financial state and not any richer or poorer? What does it look like to be faithful to Him with what you have today?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting Into God’s WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read James 5:1-6

1. Who is James addressing? What charges does James bring out in this passage against them? List as many actions and attitudes as you can find.
2. Why is James so harsh in his rebuke? How do his words line up with God’s heart against the oppressor?
Read also: Isaiah 10:1-4; Amos 4:1-3

THINK ABOUT IT: Does James teach that it is a sin to be wealthy? How would you support your answer from the rest of the Bible? **Read also:** Deuteronomy 8:18; Proverbs 10:22

Read Matthew 6:19-21

3. Compare James’ warnings to Jesus’ teaching. What does this teach us about the hearts of those James spoke about?
4. What does it mean to “lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven”?

Read 2 Corinthians 8:9-15

5. How does the gospel shape our understanding and approach to riches?
6. According to verses 13-15, what is the purpose of abundance? And what is the result of abundance when handled correctly?
Read also: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15