



1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

JOB 1:21

Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6

... whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

NOTE TO LEADERS

Over the next 4 weeks, we have the incredible privilege of some national and international speakers joining us right here at CityHill:

1. 25th of September: Fred & Vanessa - they lead a church in Paris - are with us for all 3 of our services.
2. 2nd of October: Tyrone Daniel, who leads NCMi globally, will join us for our morning meetings.
3. 9th of October: Stan & Heather Phipps, who lead Glenridge Church in Durban, will join us for our morning services, and at 9am, we will be ordaining new elders. That evening Johan and Marlise will join us for our 6 pm service. They are pastors from Johannesburg; Steve will be interviewing them on their journey from same-sex relationships to faith in Christ and pastoring a local church.
4. Finally, on the 16th of October, we've got Brad Huddleston, an author & speaker, joining us. Brad is a world expert on the impact of technology on the human brain. This is an event to invite all of your friends to, especially if they are parents.

START TALKING

1. How has the "Be Rich" series impacted your view of what it means to be rich?
2. Does anyone have a story of a random act of generosity in the last week to share?

START THINKING

1. Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Why do you think the Bible emphasises 'the coming age' (v19) so much? Why is it important for us to have an 'eternity' mind-set?
2. Read Job 1:21. On Sunday, Steve said that the bad news is that we can't take earthly treasures with us to heaven, but we can send treasure ahead. How do we do this? (*Clue: the answer is in the key scripture for this series*)

START SHARING

1. What is one thing you've learned through this series that you can apply to your view on generosity that will help you take a step forward in your relationship with God?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6. One of our values at CityHill is that "we can't outgive God". We can live radically generous lives when we have a revelation of that. What is standing in the way of you being radically generous? What step will you take to "give up your cup for a jug"?

START PRAYING

Father God, give us a revelation of Your divine economy. Help us to live differently. May we be overwhelmed by Your grace and kindness to that we can show Your grace and kindness to others. We want to be eternity-minded people. Eager to imitate You, a generous Father.

START DOING

Two ways you can practice "being rich" this week:

1. On Sunday, Nation Changers launched their annual "Love in a Gift Pack" initiative. This year we aim to bless 1,400 needy children with a gift pack. Consider putting together a couple of gift packs for this worthy cause as a group.
2. Invite someone to the Brad Huddleston event on the 16th of October.



There is a heavenly economic system that the Bible speaks of that is not separate from our earthly economy but is superior to it.

Our key scripture for the series is 1 Timothy 6:17-19: *17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

In week 1, we focussed on verse 17 and looked at some stats about world poverty. Last week we unpacked verse 18 and the life-changing power of generosity.

This Sunday, we looked at verse 19: *In this way they will **lay up treasure** for themselves as a firm foundation for **the coming age**, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

Bad News & Good News

Bad news (depending on how you look at it, of course!): The Bible tells us that...

For this world in its present form is passing away. 1 Corinthians 7:31

The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. 2 Peter 3:10

This is bad news only if your faith rests in the physical.

Good news:

The Bible tells us that:

- *Christ is preparing a place for us!* (John 14:2,3)
- *We have an eternal home waiting for us.* (2 Corinthians 5:1)
- *We will have new bodies and a new economy.* (Revelation 21:4)
- (everything you need at no cost! no inflation, no interest rates, no debt, no stock markets etc.)
- We will spend eternity with Christ in glorious and unending joy and freedom.

Bad news: You cannot take ANYTHING from this world with you!

'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. Job 1:21

Good news: You can send treasure on ahead!

1 Timothy 6:19 tells us how ...

In this way... [putting our hope in God (v17), not being arrogant (v17), being generous (v18), doing good (v18), being willing to share (v18)] *they will lay up treasure for themselves ...*

Here is the problem: many of us view finances through the lens of it being a finite amount, and we're trying to fill the bucket of our finances. We often struggle with digging into that bucket to give away. We worry that if we give it away, we will have less.

The divine economy is designed to be completely different: When we understand the divine economy of God's Kingdom and realise that we can't outgive God, we can start being radically generous (as God directs us).

... whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 2 Corinthians 9:6

The result of this revelation is that:

- We imitate our generous Father
- God uses us to bless others
- Our faith is built up (as we see the flow of kingdom economics)
- We are storing up eternal treasure for ourselves

Two challenges

1. Look for both spontaneous as well as systematic ways to give.
2. Respond to the revelation of Who God is and trade your cup for a jug!