

Strangers
Strangers In Money Study Guide

"If a person gets his attitude toward money straight, it will straighten out almost every other area in his life." – Billy Graham

Monday:

Luke 16:9-13

⁹ *"And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home. ¹⁰ He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. ¹¹ Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."* (NKJV)

- What is the "unrighteous mammon" being referred to here?
 - What does it mean that you cannot serve both God and mammon?
 - In what ways do we serve mammon in our culture today?
- What difference do you think it should make in our lives when we really believe that *everything* we have belongs to God?
 - How does acting as a *steward* for God rather than an *owner* impact the way you handle your resources?

Tuesday:

1 Timothy 6:17-19

¹⁷ *Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. ¹⁸ Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.* (NKJV)

- In what ways do you think we can easily find ourselves trusting in "uncertain riches"?
 - According to verse 18, what are we storing up for ourselves when we are generous and ready to give?
- In what ways are you *intentional* about storing up treasures in heaven?
 - How do you think you can be more intentional about generosity?
- How can you guard yourself from storing up treasures on earth?

Wednesday:

Luke 12:22-31

²² *Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. ²³ Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds?"*

²⁵ And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? ²⁶ If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸ If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith? ²⁹ “And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. ³⁰ For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. ³¹ But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. (NKJV)

- What are we told not to worry about in this passage?
 - Why, as believers, do we not have to worry about material possessions and needs?
- According to verse 31, what is the *solution* to not worrying about the resources we need?
 - What do you think it means to “seek the kingdom of God”?
- Would you say that you are seeking the kingdom of God first or seeking your own provision first?

Thursday:

1 Timothy 6:6-10

⁶ Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸ And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (NKJV)

- According to this passage, what is a crucial key to happiness?
- How do you think “the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil?”
 - Why do you think greediness always leads to sorrow?
- What can we do to work to kill greed in our own hearts?

Friday:

Matthew 6:19-21

⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (NKJV)

- How do you think we can “lay up treasures in heaven”?
 - What is the connection between our treasure and our heart?
- *Reflection:* Do you have a plan to ensure that the time and money you spend on earth is not wasted? If you don’t currently have a plan, ask the Lord to show you one thing that you can do that will help you begin to live a generous life.
- *Prayer:* Thank God for all His blessings and for being generous to you. Ask Him to give you a steward’s heart, and pray for wisdom in your giving so that what you do has an eternal impact.