

Deceitfulness Of Riches

How To Be Rich #1

Pastor Ken Ritz * Jan 6, 2012 * New Life Vineyard Church

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.

Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 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.

1 Timothy 6:17-19

1. The (very) Good News: I Am _____

Moreover, when God gives people wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God.

Ecclesiastes 5:19

Today's lesson:

"God has blessed me with more than I need. I am rich."

2. The (very) Bad News: I Am _____

"How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God? Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God."

Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?"

Jesus replied, "What is impossible with human beings is possible with God."

Luke 18:24-27

Three Problems With Being Rich

1. It's harder for you to _____.

2. It distracts you from true _____.

3. You have a far greater _____.

From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded.

Luke 12:48

Questions For Reflection/Small Group

- When you realize you are one of the richest people in the world, how does it make you feel?
- Despite the reality of being rich, why don't we "feel" rich?

Read 1 Timothy 6:17

- When we don't consider ourselves to be rich, how does this affect our attitudes and actions concerning money?
- How does knowing you are rich affect your attitudes about worry, tithing, generosity and thankfulness?

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:18

- What are the benefits of being thankful?
- Now that you are more aware of the riches in your life...are there things in your life that need to change? If so, what do you need to do to change?

Individual Reality Check

Go to www.globalrichlist.com and enter in your annual salary to see exactly where you rank. Then ask yourself how you will look at your financial situation differently this week in light of the fact that you are rich?

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*