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Hey leaders! As we continue “Off Limits”, we hope your group will encourage one another to allow God’s transformative grace to touch the parts of your lives that remain untouched. Let’s continue to challenge one another, full of truth and grace, to glorify God with every part of our lives!

Thank you for shepherding a group of people to Love God, Love Others, and Live Sent!

NEED A RESOURCE, HAVE A QUESTION, OR WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION?
Let us know how we can help! Contact your groups director or discipleship@rockbridge.cc

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“The world asks, ‘What does a man own?’ Christ asks, ‘How does he use it?’ ”
[Andrew Murray]

LEADER RESOURCES || Leader Note We do our best to equip, empower, and encourage you to shepherd your group well. Access a resource by clicking on the underlined title and share them with your group!

- **Passage Summary**
 - Paul addresses the issue of contentment (and money) as Gospel issues, not financial, budget, or spending. Most of us do not think we need grace in the area of money— unless it is rescuing (and perhaps enabling) grace. However, we need the deep grace of the gospel to realize that God intends for us to live for something bigger than us and be satisfied by something better than money.
- **1 Timothy Ch. 6 Commentary & How to Be Content**
 - Use the commentary and podcast for background and encouragement. These would be good resources to share with your group before you gather.
- **Money's Not the Problem**
 - This would be a good resource to share with your group after you gather.

ICEBREAKER || Leader Note The goal for the icebreaker is to build joy and gratitude together. If you’d prefer, you can ask this question: *What are you grateful for or how have you experienced joy this week?*

Describe a time when you spent your money on something you instantly regretted.

BEGIN WITH PRAYER || Leader Note Begin your time together by thanking God for his presence and praying His word back to Him. Ask a few people to pray, beginning in a posture of humility and dependence!

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

“Instead, his delight is in the Lord’s instruction, and he meditates on it day and night. He is like a tree planted beside flowing streams that bears its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”

[Psalm 1:2-3]

BIG IDEA || Leader Note Read this aloud so your group knows what the theme of today's discussion is.

Money is not about the size of our income, but about the condition of our heart.

PASSAGE || Leader Note Have someone read the passage aloud slowly. Consider having another person read it aloud again (possibly in a different translation) or use [Dwell](#) to listen to the passage read aloud.

- 1 Timothy 6:6-19

DISCUSSION || Leader Note Your role is to FACILITATE the conversation, so keep your group moving and encourage multiple people to share, looking for opportunities to point out the grace and glory of God! Here are two REMINDERS: 1) Every question does NOT have to be answered ... there is freedom to go where the Spirit leads! 2) The answers do NOT have to be read aloud ... they are simply there for guidance!

1. How have you seen money control you in the past? (i.e. attitude, behavior, expectations) What did you learn from that situation? *This would be a good opportunity for you to go first!*
2. What does "godliness with contentment is great gain" mean to you? *This emphasizes the value of being content with what we have, especially in relation to our pursuit of godliness. True riches come not from material wealth but from a heart content with God and His provision.*
3. How does v. 7 shape our perspective on material possessions? *This reminds us of the transient nature of worldly possessions. Just as we entered the world with nothing, we will leave with nothing. Therefore, our focus should not be on accumulating wealth but on cultivating virtues like faith and love that have eternal significance.*
4. What does Paul mean by "the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil"? *Paul isn't condemning money itself but the love of it, which can lead to evils such as greed, selfishness, and exploitation. When money becomes our primary pursuit, it can corrupt our priorities and lead us away from God.*
5. From this week's sermon: *"The love of money is a battle with love for the Lord Himself."* How have you found that to be true in your life? How have you moved towards loving God more than money?
6. How can we guard against (and help one another guard against) the temptation to love money? *We can guard ourselves by cultivating contentment, practicing generosity, and prioritizing our relationship with God above material possessions. Regularly assessing our motives and aligning them with God's values helps us keep money in its proper place.*
7. Why is it important for us to be aware of the dangers of the love of money? *Awareness of the dangers of the love of money helps us guard against its subtle influence in their lives. It protects us from prioritizing worldly wealth over spiritual values and enables them to pursue true riches found in God.*
8. How do v. 11-12 inspire us in our Christian walk? *This instructs us to actively pursue virtues that align with God's character rather than chasing after worldly pursuits. It encourages us to prioritize spiritual growth and character development over material gain. It also reminds us that our faith journey is a battle worth fighting, and we are called to hold firm to the promise of eternal life through Christ.*
9. From this week's sermon: *"Money sense (sanity, clarity, and freedom) starts with surrendering to the glory of the One greater than us."* What does this quote do inside of you? What ideas about surrendering to God's glory in the area of money does it stir up?

10. What do v. 17-18 teach us about the responsibility of wealth? *This reminds us to avoid arrogance and placing their trust in material wealth. Instead, they should recognize God as the ultimate provider and steward their resources wisely, using them to bless others and advance God's kingdom.*
11. What is the promise attached to generosity? *By being generous and using wealth to bless others, believers store up treasures in heaven and experience the true abundance of life found in a deep relationship with God. Generosity leads to eternal rewards and fulfillment in God's kingdom.* How have you found that to be true in your own life?
12. How does prioritizing eternal values over temporal wealth challenge our culture's mindset (and oftentimes our mindset)? *It challenges the prevailing mindset of materialism and consumerism by emphasizing the importance of prioritizing eternal values such as righteousness, godliness, and faith. It calls believers to live counter-culturally, seeking fulfillment in God rather than in worldly possessions.*

STEP OF OBEDIENCE || Leader Note *This is an opportunity for people to put into practice what the Spirit is inviting them to do and live in obedience to God for the sake of love! You can encourage your group to be accountable to one another and use these to follow up with one another throughout the week.*

Everything changes when we believe and live in such a way that our goal with money is to move from ownership TO surrender TO generosity. Based on the Holy Spirit's prompting today, **what is a step of obedience that you can take?**

Give your group a few moments to reflect on their answers to the questions above. Then have your group answer the question aloud. Feel free to separate into smaller groups of 3-4 for this question.

PRAYER FOCUS || Leader Note *We want to commit to praying for OTHERS as a unified church who is dependent upon God for everything. Be intentional about saving at least 5-10 minutes for prayer at the end of your small group each week to pray for the focused area below.*

Decisions

- How we make decisions can be off limits to Jesus. Pray for one another to have the courage to surrender the decision making process to Jesus.
- Consider sharing with a friend in your group a decision that you need to make in the near future. Ask them to cover you in prayer as you go through the decision making process.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE *Optional* *We include a monthly spiritual practice that can be shared with your group after you gather. Our hope is for this to enhance what we're learning and discussing together, so share about your experience with the practice at the beginning of your gatherings or throughout the week!*

Lectio divina is a slow, rhythmic reading and is a way to move Scripture from the head to the heart. The goal is to deeply experience the truth of a small amount of Scripture.

- [Lectio Divina](http://rockbridge.cc/lectio-divina-2) or rockbridge.cc/lectio-divina-2