

“Happy Money”
What Makes You Happy?, Part 4
4/26 & 4/29/18

Happiness Principles

1. **What makes you happy?** **NO THING** (Happiness is more about a “who” than a “what”)
2. **What makes you happy?** **SOWING** (Happiness is an outcome & is not immediately accessible)
The problem with sowing & reaping is it takes **TIME** (and you must sow in the right direction)

Sowing Your Way Into Happiness With Money

“I thought I **KNEW** what would make me happy.” (means you shouldn’t believe everything you **THINK!**)

Most people believe “Money will make me **HAPPY**”

There is a **CONNECTION** between your money and your happiness

We assume the connection between money & happiness is, “If I had **MORE** money, I would be more happy

“All happy people have **PEACE**”

How much more money do I need to be happy or have peace? We think, more than I **CURRENTLY** have

There is a corollary between your money and your happiness, but it’s NOT **MORE**

Money can contribute to your happiness if you **MANAGE** it well

If you mismanage your money you **UNDERMINE** your peace & happiness

If you don’t figure out how to manage your money correctly, your money will **MANAGE** you; you will have **ANXIETY** because you feel out of control, and it’s very hard to be happy

Luke 16:13 (NIV) “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

“Mammon” – it is broader than money, it’s all your **STUFF**; “You will either serve God or all your stuff”

Jesus taught that money/stuff is God’s #1 **COMPETITOR** for your devotion and heart

While you may not “love” stuff, most of us are pretty **DEVOTED** to stuff or the **ACQUISITION** of stuff

There are times when “your devotion to your desire for x” **MASTERED** you

Jesus knew the chief competitor for the throne of your life, is your desire to **ACQUIRE**, and it has the power to **ENSLAVE** you

When you are enslaved, you are not **HAPPY**, no matter how much money you make/have

How Does This Happen?

1. **It begins with DISCONTENTMENT** – I’m never satisfied with what I have because I know what **YOU** have, and I know what **THERE** is to have
Philippians 4:12 (NIV) “I [Paul] know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.”

AWARENESS drives discontentment

2. **GREED drives our discontentment** – Greed is the assumption that it’s all for my **CONSUMPTION**
Luke 12:15 (GN) “And He [Jesus] went on to say to them all, ‘Watch out and guard yourselves from every kind of greed; because your true life is not made up of the things you own, no matter how rich you may be.’”

If you assume everything that comes to you is for you, you will use it **ALL** on **YOU**

Problem: Greed is an **APPETITE** that's never fully and finally satisfied

3. **DEBT** – we don't **STOP** when our money runs out

Proverbs 21:20 (NLT) "The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get."

"I want and don't have" is **BETTER** than "I owe and can't pay"

In debt you become a **SLAVE** – to your desire and to the one you borrow from
Proverbs 22:7 (NAS) "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower *becomes* the lender's slave."

"I want" is between you and **GOD**

Once you buy it and you borrow to buy it, it's no longer between you and God; it's between you and a **CREDITOR** (Worse part – **GOD** sides with the creditor)

Psalms 37:21 (NIV) "The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously."

GET OUT of debt; **STAY OUT** of debt – go through Financial Peace University

Don't **TRADE** your peace for some thing that **CAN'T** possibly bring you peace

The only thing that addresses these three things is **MANAGEMENT** – how you manage your money

Jesus' Alternative

Luke 16:13 (NIV) "No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve both God and money."

Two words summarize what the Bible teaches about how we are to manage our resources: **GENEROSITY** and **WISDOM**

HAPPY people are generous and wise with their money

Three simple ideas on how to manage your finances: **GIVE**, **SAVE**, **LIVE**

Giving always results in **JOY**

Acts 20:35 (GN) "I have shown you in all things that by working hard in this way we must help the weak, remembering the words that the Lord Jesus Himself said, 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'"

Money in the **BANK** leads to peace in the heart and mind

You must choose not to spend **MORE** than you make and **LIVE** on the rest – if you do this, you'll be financially free

Although I **COULD** buy, lease, or borrow for one of those, I'm **NOT** going to; I'd **RATHER** be free and have peace than have x

More money **WON'T** bring peace & happiness; the way you **MANAGE** your money will

Money contributes to your happiness – **WHEN** and **IF** you manage it well

Your best option is to invite your Heavenly Father to **MANAGE** you

My Next Step Today Is:

- I realize I have been looking for my happiness in things rather than my relationship with Jesus
- I will begin managing my money/resources God's way – give, save, live (in that order)
- I/we plan to attend "All About New Hope" at 11:30 AM on Sunday, May 6th

Next week: Join us for Part 5 of "What Makes You Happy" – "Shoes." Invite a friend!

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Most people believe “Money will make me _____”
There is a _____ between your money and your happiness
We assume the connection between money & happiness is, “If I had _____ money, I would be more happy”
All happy people have _____
How much more money do I need to be happy or have peace? We think, more than I _____ have
There is a corollary between your money and your happiness, but it’s NOT _____
Money can contribute to your happiness if you _____ it well
If you mismanage your money you _____ your peace & happiness
If you don’t figure out how to manage your money correctly, your money will _____ you; you will have _____ because you feel out of control, and it’s very hard to be happy
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Jesus taught that money/stuff is God’s #1 _____ for your devotion and heart
While you may not “love” stuff, most of us are pretty _____ to stuff or the _____ of stuff
There are times when “your devotion to your desire for x” _____ you
Jesus knew the chief competitor for the throne of your life, is your desire to _____, and it has the power to _____ you
When you are enslaved, you are not _____, no matter how much money you make/have

How Does This Happen?

1. **It begins with** _____ – I’m never satisfied with what I have because I know what _____ have, and I know what _____ is to have
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_____ drives discontentment

2. _____ **drives our discontentment** – Greed is the assumption that it’s all for my _____
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Two words summarize what the Bible teaches about how we are to manage our resources: _____

And _____

_____ people are generous and wise with their money

Three simple ideas on how to manage your finances: _____, _____, _____

Giving always results in _____

Acts 20:35 (GN) "I have shown you in all things that by working hard in this way we must help the weak, remembering the words that the Lord Jesus Himself said, 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'"

Money in the _____ leads to peace in the heart and mind

You must choose not to spend _____ than you make and _____ on the rest – if you do this, you'll be financially free

Although I _____ buy, lease, or borrow for one of those, I'm _____ going to; I'd _____ be free and have peace than have x

More money _____ bring peace & happiness; the way you _____ your money will

Money contributes to your happiness – _____ and _____ you manage it well

Your best option is to invite your Heavenly Father to _____ you

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