



Clear the Air: The Christian and His Finances

1 Timothy 6:3-10, 17-19

English Services

(8 & 10:30 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.)

Prelude
Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Worship through Fellowship
Testimony
Scripture Reading
Pastoral Prayer
Worship in the Word
Pastor BJ Sebastian
Worship through Giving
Response Song
Benediction

Filipino Service

(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda
Tawag sa Pagsamba
Pagsamba sa Pag-awit
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita
Patotoo
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos
Panalanging Pastoral
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos
Pastor BJ Sebastian
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay
Tugon na Awit
Bendisyon



**CLEAR
THE AIR!**

Burning Issues
Confronting
Christians Today

19/20 January 2019

Vol. 41, No. 3



Clear the Air: The Christian and His Finances

Today's Message (19/20 January 2019) /
1 Timothy 6:3-10, 17-19

INTRODUCTION

Context of the Message. We live in a consumption-crazy world that is driven by instant self-gratification and the pursuit of money. We are “not of this world but still in this world,” and as such, we are not immune to the pressure to join the “rat-race”—to secure for ourselves the greatest amount of money that will secure our needs and our wants. But the issue is really not money, because money is neither bad or good in and of itself. The issue is the heart and where we set our affections on as people who are not of this world, but still living in this world.

Context of the Passage. Paul, in this letter, commands Timothy to deal with the false teachers in the church of Ephesus who were teaching false doctrine and leading the flock astray into ungodly living. One of the false doctrines they were teaching is “imagining that godliness is a means of gain.”

Content of the Passage. In this passage and in contrast to false teachers, Paul exhorts Timothy to preach and practice true godliness, which is marked with contentment and charity—not to be self-indulgent but satisfied; not to set his heart on money but to set his heart on eternity.

EXPOSITION

1. Don't be self-indulgent. Be satisfied (1 Timothy 6:3–8).

- Paul issues a warning against false teachers (v. 3).
- Paul describes these false teachers by their attitudes and actions (v. 4–5).
- In contrast, Paul urged Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:6–8 to model “godliness with contentment” which he said “is *great* gain”—something far superior than the material wealth derived from false teaching.
- Paul issues a warning: Don't be self-indulgent (like the false teachers); be satisfied (as a child of God who is dependent on God for everything).

2. Don't set your heart on money. Set your heart on eternity (1 Timothy 6:9–10, 17–19).

- Paul then tells Timothy that the secret to being satisfied with one's possessions, is really to have one's heart in the right place (v. 9–10). Jesus said the same thing in Matthew 6:21.
- He starts with a warning again: “But those who desire to be rich” (v. 9).
- Paul further describes this “desire to be rich” as “the love of money” (v. 10).
- So Paul tells Timothy to teach and model that people should not set their heart on money.
- It is easy for Timothy to infer from what Paul said that being rich is bad, and this is probably why in verses 17–19, Paul addresses those who are “rich in this present age,” which is a reference to those who are materially rich or rich in this earthly life.
- Paul then says that when rich believers set their hopes on God, “they are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share” (v. 18). It means hanging loosely to what they have (which is in abundance anyway), and trusting God that He will always provide.
- It means having a clear view of heaven and eternity with God where they need to “store up treasures for themselves as a good foundation for the future” (v. 19).



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- So Paul admonishes Timothy to teach and model that people should not set their hearts on money, but to set their hearts on eternity.

APPLICATION

1. Don't be self-indulgent. Be satisfied.

- Focus on what you need and not what you want.
- Live within your means.
- Remember God knows better what you need and what will bring you joy and comfort. Ask from Him not according to your desires (*James 4:3*), but ask according to His will (*Luke 23:42*).

2. Don't set your heart on money. Set your heart on eternity

- We can apply this in the way we budget and spend our money:
 - **God first.** When you budget your money, the first thing to set aside is how much you will give to God. All your money is God's money anyway (*Deuteronomy 8:18*). And we are to give cheerfully according to the measure of faith given us (*2 Corinthians 9:6-8*). And we are to love Him with all that we are and have (*Mark 12:30*).
 - **Savings next.** The second thing to budget is how much you will save (*Proverbs 6:6-8*). Wealth is not defined by how much you make, but how much you save. Savings are part of God's provision for our future (medical insurance, life insurance, property insurance, principal-protected investments, selected equity investments). They keep us from setting our hearts on just present pleasures. Savings also enable you to help others who are in need—to be “rich in good works” and to “store up your treasures in heaven,” which is the real life we are preparing for.
 - **Cover your “musts”.** The third thing to budget is how much you will spend for your needs or your “musts.” These are the essentials in living in our 21st century world—daily food, shelter (rent or mortgage payments), basic clothing, utilities (power, light and telecommunications), transportation (car expenses, gas and maintenance, or commuting expense), household help, kids' allowance, medical expenses, etc.
 - **Your “wants” come last.** Finally, the last thing you budget for (if you have some surplus) are your non-essentials or “wants”—eating-out or hanging-out expense, “nice” clothes, “nice-to-have” gadgets, entertainment expenses (cable, streaming services like Netflix or Spotify, occasional movies, special events like concerts), collectibles (art, jewellery).
 - **Invest in eternity.** Now if you still have some left over, or instead of spending your surplus on some of your “wants,” consider giving to God some more, or saving some more so you can help others even more and more.

Matthew 6:19-21 admonishes us all: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” ■

THE CHURCH IN EVERY AREA OF LIFE

Most of the time whenever we picture the “church,” it is about going to a place on a specific day to attend a worship service. In the same way whenever we picture “worship,” the image that comes to mind is people singing praises to God. Though these images may be activities and expressions of church and worship, they are a limited view. Church and worship goes beyond gathering together on a Sunday.

Church is the community of God’s people, and worship is honoring Him in all things that we do. Whether we are gathered together on Sundays or scattered in our workplaces and homes on the weekdays, we are God’s people and we honor Him in the work of our hands, in our relationships, in our health, and in the things that we say.

This is what Jesus meant when he said in John 4:22 that true worshippers will worship in Spirit and in Truth. Sacred ground is no longer in this temple or that temple; everywhere a follower of Jesus goes, he or she brings the Kingdom of God with him/her. That is what it means to be a witness: to

proclaim that Jesus is Lord in every area of life. Whether it is typing a document or serving a glass of water, people must see and hear how Jesus lived and loved through us. We are Church whether we are gathered on a Sunday or scattered on the weekdays. We are Church from Sunday to Sunday in every area of life.

PNPA MINISTRY SOFT LAUNCH

Today (Sunday), we celebrate the soft launch of our ministry to the cadets of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA). Our Senior Pastor, Larry Pabiona, will be there to preach in the regular Sunday Service of the PNPA Christian Fellowship, alongside our missionaries and volunteers that minister through the Joshua and Caleb Ministry (our ministry to the members of the uniformed services). This is one example of the church penetrating all areas of life. Please pray that the ministry will be fruitful and make a huge impact not just in the academy amongst their classmates but in all the places where these cadets will be deployed ■

Greenhills Christian Fellowship

will celebrate its **41st Anniversary** on

February 9 (Sat)

6:00 p.m.

February 10 (Sun)

10:00 a.m. and 5:00 pm.

(two services only)

Join us in the celebrations!

Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



HONORING GOD IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS

*Joy Women Anniversary
and Love Month Celebration*

Speakers: Pastor BJ and Dra. Bebet Sebastian
February 9 (Sat), 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Couples are invited to join!
Please text **0916 243 1901** to register.



JOURNEYING WITH GRACE

Naomi Women 4th Anniversary Celebration

Speaker: Merlyn Guillermo
February 23 (Sat), 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Attendee with Best Headdress will win a
special prize! Contact **0998 569 4095** to
register.



THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES SEMINAR

*Learn to express to and receive love from your
partner thru the Five Love Languages Forum*
February 23 (Sat), 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fee: Php 100 (materials and snack included)
Contact **0917 532 7713** to register.



GGEX EXTREME

*featuring Discovering What the Future Holds
by Precept Ministries*
All adults without GG are invited.
March 31 (Sun) 9:30-10:30 a.m.
at the Fellowship Hall
Free snack and material will be provided.
Register at the booth at the lobby.

NOTICE: Due to some apprehension incidents, we are reminding the congregation of the Sunday parking provisions given to us by the OCAI, as well as other parking spaces available nearby. Please check your bulletin insert for details.

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God by Rubelyn Enriquez, Mr. & Mrs. Martin, and the Messiah College. Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.

Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

Growth Group Express

*How to Make Decisions You Won't
Regret (Lessons on David's Life)*
Adults without GGs are invited!
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Best Together in Christ

Group for Couples
Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Rm. B508

Spark Growth Group

Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Seniors' Room

Life in Technicolor

*support group for cancer patients
and survivors*
Every 3rd Sunday of the month
12:00-3:00 p.m., Seniors' Rm.

Overcomers

*support group for those under
any kind of addiction*
Thursdays, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

*If you are interested in joining any
of the small groups above, fill out
the tear-off form of this bulletin,
drop it in the offering bag, or
submit it at the Growth Group
booth at the lobby. For more
information, you can text or call
us at **0917 532 1921**.*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT / January 2019

| | General Funds | Mission Support Fund | Others (Designated, facilities, etc.) | Total |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| January Projected | 9,610,406 | 1,317,698 | 698,549 | 11,626,653 |
| Received (Jan. 1-16) | 4,110,156 | 205,745 | 96,669 | 4,412,570 |

God works through the prayer of believers

BY RUEL GUEVARRA

Our group is from Connect, the ministry arm of GCF who reaches to people from the BPO industry. We were sent as a Wetfoot team to Thailand from October 23 to November 7 last year. Here, I would like to share what God has done for the team and through the team during our stay there.

We have met missionaries of different kinds, from different countries and different backgrounds. We met a young couple who are dedicated in sharing God's love to the tribal people of Northern Thailand, even though they are just starting their family. They are persevering in their ministry even though one of their struggles is learning the language that is very foreign to them.

We have met a missionary family who experienced severe persecution from the country they are serving. Yet instead of taking a break or quitting the ministry, they continue to serve as missionaries. One time after they've told us their story, they even described their life as missionaries is the "best life" ever.

We learned so many things from their lives and their stories. Some of the principles we learned are that missionaries are not super Christians, they are also like you and me.

The place we went to has a very laid back culture. Even with advanced technology in our time, they are very conservative in their beliefs and practices. We saw how some of their beliefs instill fear in their hearts and lives and how they need the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We saw in practice the importance of strategy in missions. This includes emphasis on building relationships that leads not only to their conversion, but also to a meaningful discipleship-relationship from



Ruel (rightmost) with others from Connect Wetfoot team

the missionaries to the people they are ministering to. We also witnessed how God works through the prayer of the believers, how the success of our trip has been because of our prayer partners back here at church.

We ministered primarily to children. We taught children from the church of our host missionary. We also reached out to children of different tribes in Northern Thailand. Even though it was difficult because of the language barrier, we saw the importance of teaching these children the Gospel, because they will be the future not only of their church, but also of Asian Christianity.

God's mission is also our mission, as believers, and as a church. We encourage you to participate in our church's upcoming mission trainings and mission trips. Together, we will continue and be a better missional church ■

GCF PRAYER GATHERINGS *at the Chapel*

The GCF Hour of Prayer
Tuesdays, 6-7 a.m.

Midweek Prayer Service
Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

ON THE COVER: "Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest"—Prov. 6:6-8 (photo of ants on a peony bud from pixabay.com).



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605
Tel. Nos. 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80, 635 0082 to 83 | Fax No. 632 1357
Mobile No. 0920 961 2964, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
E-mail: email@gcf.org.ph • Website: www.gcf.org.ph

How may we SERVE YOU BETTER?

Fill-out this tear off form and drop it in an offering bag/box or at the Ministry Information Booth. Please check all that is applicable:

- I am a first-time guest.
- I prayed to receive Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord today.
- I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- I am interested in becoming a member of this church.
- I want to join a Growth Group.**
(Specify age group: _____)
(Specify group composition: _____)
- I want to start a Growth Group.
- I want to host a Growth Group.

Please share with us some information about yourself:

Name: _____

Age: ____ Landline no.: _____

Mobile no.: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Year of membership: _____

Name of Growth Group (if you already have one): _____

*Today is **19/20 January 2019**, and I attended the 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. (Sat) (encircle the time).*

Write below *any* inquiry or prayer item that you want to ask or share.

THE GOSPEL

“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

God is holy and righteous: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory” *(Isaiah 6:3)*. **He requires holiness of us as well:** “Be holy, for I am holy” *(1 Peter 1:16)*.

THE TRUTH ABOUT MAN

Man is sinful: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” *(Romans 3:23)*.
Sin demands a penalty: “For the wages of sin is death” *(Romans 6:23)*.

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST

Christ is the expression of God's love for us: “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” *(Romans 5:8)*. **Christ paid the penalty of our sins and died for sinners:** “For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God” *(1 Peter 3:18)*. **Through Christ, God offers man reconciliation:** “God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them” *(2 Corinthians 5:18)*.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior: “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” *(Romans 10:9)*.

PRAYER: *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe that you died on the cross in my place, to save me from my sins, and I accept you as my Savior, and the Master of my life forever. Amen.*

Need someone to talk to?

Visit the Emmaus Road Counseling Center at the GCF Mezzanine floor or contact 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80 or 0917 532 7794 for inquiries.

For hospital or house visitation, dedication service, or funeral service requests, please call or text 0917 532 7794.