

All letters except for R,S,T,L,N and E have been removed from a verse of Ecclesiastes 5. Replace the blanks with the correct letters to reveal the scripture.

**T\_e slee\_ \_ \_ l\_ \_ r n\_ \_ \_ n \_s  
s\_eet, \_ \_ e \_er \_e e\_t l\_ttle \_r  
\_ \_ \_ : \_ \_ t t\_e \_ \_ n \_n\_e \_ \_  
t\_e r\_ \_ \_ ll n\_t s\_ \_er \_ \_ t\_  
slee\_.**

### Memory Verse

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.

— 1st Timothy 6:9

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

- ☐ Lord's Day & Monday
- ☐ Tuesday
- ☐ Wednesday
- ☐ Thursday
- ☐ Friday & Saturday

Signature

## Daily Bible Studies

### June 9 - June 15, 2013

### “Filthy Rich” Ecclesiastes 5:8 - 20



## The Lord's Day & Monday

This week we will be studying **Ecclesiastes 5:8-20**.

This is a passage filled with serious warnings for us. All people, but especially Americans, need to consider very carefully what the Lord Jesus says to us here, through Solomon.

Our country is obsessed with making money and buying bigger and better stuff. I can't help thinking of rappers that produce albums and then movies with titles like "Get Rich or Die Tryin'." They have led many, many young men and women down a dark, dangerous path where they will "die tryin'." The sad reality is the album should be called, "Get Rich **and** Die Tryin'," because even if you do stack up piles of cash, you will die and face the God you have ignored.

But listen, boys and girls, a sinful love of money and dependence on money isn't just a problem for the hip-hop culture. The seeds of that sin are hidden in your heart and if you don't destroy it, it will destroy you.

The Bible gives us many clear warnings.

Remember this guy?

But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' **So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.**" Luke 12:20-21



Last week's study ended with the words, "Fear God." I pray that you don't take what God says to us this week lightly. You should experience some fear when you think about the possibility of being destroyed by your money. Run to Jesus. He will save you. Be rich towards Him.

## Friday & Saturday Quiz

Review the week's lessons. Write down some things you learned, then go tell your parents and/or one of the elders.

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## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Lord Jesus, you are so gracious. If you gave me what I deserved, my work would accomplish nothing. Instead you bless my efforts. Thank you for the food you put on my table and the clothes you put on my back. Help me praise you for these things and use them to serve you joyfully."

Pray for the Lord's Day service:

1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.

## Friday & Saturday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 5:18-20**.

This week we have seen many of the dangers and pitfalls that money leaves in our path as we stoop down to pick it up. Today, we will see how a godly man uses and views money.

A godly man, first of all does not hoard his money. He uses it to benefit his church, his family, and those in need. He uses it to feed and clothe his family. He buys just enough, not too much and not too little, of everything he needs to stay physically and spiritually strong and healthy.

Most of all, the godly man does these things with extreme joy because he realizes and admits that God has given all of these things to him. He enjoys a good bowl of chili or some tacos not just because they taste good, but because he knows he has been blessed by his Father with them. He has been given good things that he does not deserve. He is being strengthened to serve his God for another day. He is "tickled pink" to think that God allows him, a Hell-deserving sinner, to have strength to work and to receive a paycheck and to buy things he needs.

These things and this attitude are gifts from God to be received with thanksgiving.

Lastly, the man who does not hold his money tightly, but does the things I mentioned above will not lament that his money is quickly gone. He will have joy that God and other people are being served. He will not worry about his money, like the rich man does. He will be too busy enjoying the good things that God allows him to do with it.

## The Lord's Day & Monday Quiz

**Read the following Scriptures and fill in the blanks. (NKJV)**

**1st Timothy 6:9-10** But those who desire to be rich \_\_\_\_\_ into temptation and a \_\_\_\_\_, and into many foolish and \_\_\_\_\_ lusts which drown men in \_\_\_\_\_ and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have \_\_\_\_\_ from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 12:15** And He said to them, "Take \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

**Mark 10:25** But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how \_\_\_\_\_ it is for those who \_\_\_\_\_ in riches to enter the kingdom of God!

**Luke 18:24** For it is \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_ to go through the eye of a needle than for a \_\_\_\_\_ man to enter the kingdom of God.

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Lord Jesus, help me. I live in a country that has too much stuff. I am spoiled and many times I still want more and more. Help me to see the sin that is making it hard for me to hear you and even care about you. Please forgive me and cleanse me of my sin."

Pray for your family:

1. Dad and Mom
2. Brothers and Sisters
3. Grandpas, Grandmas, Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins

## Tuesday

Today's reading is **Ecclesiastes 5:8-9**.

Have you ever thought about why it is so tempting to try to get rich?

One reason is that it seems that all the people with money also have all the power. Furthermore, for some reason, we are surprised that some do not use their power for good. Some that are rich abuse the poor. In response, some of the poor develop a sinful desire for revenge. They think, "If only I were rich, I would punish the people that are wronging me and I would help all of the poor people." Some of that sounds good, doesn't it? Unfortunately, that kind of desire is usually stained with sinful hatred and soon the desire to get rich controls the person instead of the person controlling the desire. Very often if a person succeeds in getting rich, they forget about their noble crusade to help the poor and they become (or it is revealed that they always were) the very thing they hated. In the book, The Count of Monte Cristo, a man gave this advice, "Hatred is blind, rage carries you away; and he who pours out vengeance runs the risk of tasting a bitter draught (drink)."

Thankfully, Solomon builds some fences to keep us from going down that road. He tries to lessen our outrage at injustice by telling us not to be surprised by it. Don't be shocked when sinful men do sinful things. He tells us that the rich and powerful try very hard to protect themselves and keep their money and power. They watch out for each other. The king gets fat on his throne from the food that the farmer busted his back to grow. This is nothing new. Your angry revenge isn't going to do much to change things, but remember that there is One who is more rich and more powerful than them all and He is watching very closely.

Another reason why we may be tempted to become rich is because we think that we are worthless and without value if we are poor. You want to "be somebody." Well, Solomon gives us some things to correct our thoughts there as well. First of all, we must humbly admit that we are "under God." He is the "highest official." We should realize that even if we are the greatest of all men we are nothing compared to God and His Son. Secondly, the "lowly" farmer supports the "great" king, the "great" warrior, and the "great" scholar with the food that he grows. God has given you your "lot in life" and it is a good one. Do not despise it.

## Thursday Quiz

### True or False

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. If you are rich everyone will love you.  | T | F |
| 2. If you have a lot of money, you might find yourself worrying a lot about it.                     | T | F |
| 3. There is no danger in having a lot of money.   | T | F |
| 4. Jesus told us that it is difficult for a person who has riches to enter into the kingdom of God. | T | F |
| 5. You will not be able to take your money with you when you die.                                   | T | F |

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Once again, Lord you have warned me of the dangers that come along with wealth. I know my heart is deceitful, God. Please keep me from giving all my love and affection to things instead of to you."

Pray for the leaders of our government. As always, pray that they would fear and honor the Lord Jesus with the decisions they make.

This week we will pray for people involved with the justice system.

1. Sandra Wogick, Cattaraugus County Commissioner of Jurors
2. Jonathan Lippman, Chief Judge of the State of New York
3. Sonia Maria Sotomayor, Associate Judge United States Supreme Court

## Thursday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 5:13 - 17**.

We continue to look at the vanity of riches and the first thing we see today is that when you hoard money you are hurting yourself. How does it hurt you? We already saw yesterday that people will use you and will envy you. When you are in trouble, they will not defend and help you very quickly. They might even be happy that you are being cut down to size. Additionally, an abundance of riches can make us nervous and worrisome.

More importantly though, hoarding money hurts you by:

1. Making you proud.
2. Making you feel safe as though there is no physical or spiritual danger to be aware of.
3. Making you love this world more and more.
4. Drawing your heart away from God.
5. Making it difficult for you to enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Not only does hoarding money hurt you, it also is a very foolish thing to do.

First of all, something may happen which causes you to lose all of your money. Think about what happened to Job. Think about all the people who lost money at the start of the Great Depression. "Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven." (Proverbs 23:5)

Secondly, even if you do hold onto your money for your entire life, death will loosen your grip. Paul reminds us, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." (1 Timothy 6:7) Solomon reminds us, "As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return, To go as he came...just exactly as he came, so shall he go." You came into this world butt naked and one day you will appear before God uncovered if you die without Jesus. You were born a sinner unworthy to stand in God's presence. If you spend all of your time stacking cash instead of seeking God, you will stand before God with your sins unforgiven. You will be naked and ashamed as he turns you from His presence to think about your useless money forever.

## Tuesday Quiz

Read Deuteronomy 32:35, Romans 12:19, Hebrews 10:30. What do you think those verses have to do with today's lesson. Write down your answer below.

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## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray: "Lord Jesus, help me to be content with what I have and with the life that you have given me. I am thankful that there is no one higher than you and you are good."

Pray for your church family:

1. Mr. Mike and Mrs. Kim Orcutt, Kayleigh
2. Mrs. Gayle Rockwell, Cory, Aaron
3. Mr. Rick and Mrs. Jill Stefanone, little Rick, Tessa

## Wednesday

The reading for today is **Ecclesiastes 5:10-12**.

Today, Solomon explains the vanity of money and riches.

First, he explains that a man who loves money will always want more money. He will never have enough to be happy. A sinful desire or lust can never be satisfied. A person can be hypnotized and carried along by their lust for more money. Scripture gives us two warnings to snap us out of it.

Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

—Proverbs 27:20

There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things say not, It is enough: The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that saith not, It is enough.—Proverbs 30:15-16

You can keep chasing after money, power, women, or whatever, but you will never be satisfied and finally you will meet two other things that are never satisfied: death and Hell.

Solomon also tells us that the quicker the money pours into your bank account, the quicker it pours out. Think about it. If you get rich and buy a huge mansion, who is going to clean the 20 bathrooms? Think about how much toilet paper you have to buy. Who is going to oil your bowling alley and dust your movie screen? You are going to have to hire a lot of people and that costs a lot of money. Not only that, whenever people want to “hang out” they are going to come to your house and make you buy all the pizza. When they are short on money who are they going to ask to borrow some from? People you don’t even know will pretend to be your uncle or your long lost twin that you never knew about, just so they can get some of your money. My dad told me over and over again, “Possessions possess.” In other words, you don’t own them. They own you.

Finally, Solomon warns us that the rich have trouble sleeping. They lay awake worrying that someone will break into their mansion or steal their Ferrari. They worry that some disaster will happen and that they will lose their money. The hard-working man who has very little, on the other hand, sleeps well. He is not worried about losing things. He doesn’t have much anyway and he is exhausted from work.

## Wednesday Quiz

If you were in the desert for many days and were just about to die from thirst, what would you want the most at that moment? A glass of water or a million dollars? \_\_\_\_\_

Of course, you would choose the glass of water. A million dollars won’t save your life or bring you satisfaction when you are in the desert. How much less then, will money satisfy your spiritual desires? Will money save you on the Day of Judgment? Can money bring you lasting joy?

**Fill in the blanks.**

**Isaiah 55:1-2** "Come, everyone who \_\_\_\_\_, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without \_\_\_\_\_. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not \_\_\_\_\_? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

## Prayer

Pray about today’s lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray: “Dear Lord, thank you that your word reveals dangers to me and shows me the error of my ways. Help me to remember what you have told me so that I do not sin against you.”

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

This week’s missionaries are the Fehr’s. They work with Word of Life ministries which works with kids and teenagers. Mr. and Mrs. Fehr have been dealing with health issues over the past year, so please pray for them in that regard.