



1 Timothy

6:17-19

New International Version
1984 (NIV1984)

A Culture of Contagious Generosity

⁹ People who long to be rich fall into **temptation** and are **trapped** by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many **sorrows**.

¹⁷Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. ¹⁹By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

creates a false sense of **Power, Security, Value**

Tempted Trapped Trouble



Life is not a token to be **bartered**,
but a Gift to be **SHARED**

✧ **Material Wealth is TEMPORARY**

Wealth tempts us to be **self-reliance**

“We can’t take our riches with us” Eccl. 5:15

✧ **Material Wealth is DECEPTIVE**

Wealth traps us in our **desire** for more

“**trapped** by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction.” ^{v9}

✧ **Material Wealth will not SATISFY**

Wealth brings the sorrow of **empty promises**.

“Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!” Eccl. 5:10

LIFE – “This is eternal life – they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ.” John 17:3

CONTAGIOUS GENEROSITY

Generosity is always **contagious!**

It's also supposed to be our normal way of life. "

1. Stewardship is more than an obligation. It's an opportunity to witness the reckless nature of God who gives the gift of salvation by grace to everyone who receives it.
2. Generous giving is one of the best external indicators for measuring transformation and spiritual growth.
3. [Church] financial administrators should learn to see themselves as gateways – not gatekeepers – to the world of generosity.
4. Extending generosity beyond the church budget provides some balance to the tendency many leaders have to overemphasize the internal ministries of the church.
5. Contrary to what many pastors believe, people want to hear their pastor talk about money.
6. One message in Scripture is very clear: we serve a generous God whose desire is for us to be generous with one another.
7. Churches that have developed a mature culture of generosity are excellent storytellers.
8. What you choose to celebrate most often in your church will become what is most valued by your church.
9. When we celebrate generosity, we are reminded that the source of all things is God, and we gain a front-row seat to his work in people's lives.

10. The growing emphasis on sharing what we have and giving generously of our resources to others is quickly becoming one of the best evangelical efforts in America today.

“Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile.” Mother Teresa

There's an old rabbinic saying: "The day is short and the task is great and the laborers are idle and the wage is abundant and the master of the house is urgent." Are you ready to see? Are you ready to go?