

## TIME AND MONEY PRINCIPLES FOR A NEW YEAR

Pastor Brian Rayburn  
Matthew 19:16 – 26  
January 12/13, 2019

### MESSAGE NOTES

*We really must understand that the lust for affluence in contemporary society is psychotic. It is psychotic because it has completely lost touch with reality. We are made to feel ashamed to wear clothes or drive cars until they are worn out. The mass media has convinced us that to be out of step with fashion is to be out of step with reality. It is time to awaken to the fact that conformity to a sick society is to be sick. — Richard Foster*

Remember these 3 things about your resources:

1. Everything you have is to be received as a gift from God
2. Everything you have is cared for by God.
3. Everything you have is available to others.

Four Healthy Spending Questions these days and I want to share them with you as we close:

1. Is this purchase for utility and not prestige or status?
2. Would this purchase be accumulating
3. Is this purchase just culture's lust for the newest technology?
4. Can I borrow this?

Other Notes:

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Reread Matthew 19:16 – 26. What part of the story seems most important to you? Why?
- Brian said *“Every dollar you spend is a vote cast for the world you want to live in.”* Do you agree? If so, why?
- List three values you have for your money/resources. Or, asked another way, list three things you hope you accomplish with your wealth/resources.
- How do the above mentioned values line up with a life of faith and trust in a God who is your ultimate provider?
- Brian mentioned Four Healthy Habits to Consider Before Spending, which one means the most to you and why?
  1. Is this purchase for utility or prestige and status?
  2. Am I practicing a spiritual habit of de-accumulating or its opposite amassing?
  3. Does this purchase provide measurable improvement or do I just want to have the newest and latest thing?
  4. Can I borrow this from someone?
- How does the belief that what you have (money and possessions) is to be received as a gift, not something you earned, change your willingness to share or give it away?
- Reflect and make a comment on the quote below. How do Foster’s words apply to your specific life?

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— Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline