## NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD - ELCA

Stewardship Series Bible Study

## The Love of Money

We don't really talk about money in the church much. Jesus talks more about money than he talks about heaven or hell. Timothy writes pastoral letters to the fledgling churches in Asia Minor. He outlines behavior that can draw people away from faith.

## I Timothy 6: 2b-10

Teach and urge these duties. <sup>3</sup>Whoever teaches otherwise and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that is in accordance with godliness, <sup>4</sup>is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words. From these come envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions, <sup>5</sup>and wrangling among those who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

<sup>6</sup>Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; <sup>7</sup>for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; <sup>8</sup>but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup>But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

The classical reading of verse 10 is "The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil." With further research the better translation is "The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil."

What are the evils "the love of money" can bring?

What does money represent to you?

How does the "love of money" tempt you?

What is the difference between the love of money and good financial money management?

How do you reconcile money and faith?

Share examples of ways advertising promotes the love of money and stuff.

The way we use money says a great deal about our faith. Money is a resource, a valuable resource. Taking about money and connecting it to our faith in Jesus is vital. Giving money away is a way to not let money one's life.

