

# The Exchange

## Saturday, 4 October 2014



1. Is it fair to describe money as the root of all evil? Is that what the Bible actually says in 1 Timothy 6:10?
2. How much time do we spend on 'money'? Thinking about it, worrying about it, working for it, spending it, flaunting it, saving it and wasting it? How might our relationship with money reveal our priorities? Is this relationship with money an inevitable consequence of life?
3. Can money buy happiness?
4. Is there anything that money cannot 'buy'?
5. *'Having money's not everything; not having it is'*. Is money less of a distraction for the rich or the poor?
6. Is there an optimum level of wealth that brings about contentment?
7. Are contentment and progression at odds with each other?
8. How does putting a price tag on something imbue it with more value? Is a designer dress inherently worth more because it costs more? Can you think of examples where people choose to spend more on particular items despite cheaper alternatives being available? What may drive them to do so?
9. Advertising often preys on our feelings of discontent, telling us that we need something to be happy. How do we shield ourselves from this technique?
10. In what ways does having money provide security? Is there a correlation whereby the more money you have the more secure you feel?
11. Does having money make people more or less reliant on others? What impact might this have on our relationships with others and God?
12. Is it socially responsible to be self-reliant?
13. Is the honest accumulation of wealth morally permissible?
14. In what ways, financial or otherwise, do we measure someone's value? Why is it necessary to do so?
15. Are wealthy people treated better than those with less wealth? If so, why does this occur and is it always the case?
16. How do you see money used as a force for good in the world?
17. Are wealth and riches a result of God's sovereignty, whereby whether we are rich or poor is God's will? Does this disregard personal responsibility? Does it encourage people to simply wait on God's blessings and opportunities instead of helping bring them into fruition?
18. Jesus said *"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money"*. What steps can we take to ensure that money does not distract us from full dependence on God?