



Happy Money
Luke 16:13
Message from Pastor Martin Hawley
February 26, 2017

The Bottom Line: Money won't make you happy or unhappy. It's about how well you manage what you have. Money contributes to your happiness if you manage it well.

Introduction:

Q: What makes you happy? A: No Thing.

Q: What makes you happy? A: Sowing.

You've got to **sow** for happy.

How many times have you heard or said, "I thought I **knew** what would make me **happy**?"

The relationship between your money and your happiness is management.

We are tempted to believe the connection between money and happiness is amount.

If I could ever make _____, I wouldn't have any worries.

How much **more** money would it take to make you **happy**?

How much **more** money would it take to give you **peace**?

*More than you **currently** have ...*

Enough is a moving target. It's not an amount.

Money contributes to your **happiness** if you **manage** it well.

REMEMBER: Anything that undermines your **peace** undermines your **happiness**. Mismanaging money undermines peace.

Jesus taught that if you don't manage your money properly, your money will manage you.

According to Jesus, money is God's number one competitor for your devotion to peace with God. It has the potential to become your master.

"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 (Luke 16:13 NIV)."

"You cannot **serve** both **God** and **money** (Luke 16:13 NIV)."

Has your **desire** for some **thing** ever caused you to **do something**?

Has your desire for some **thing** ever caused you to do something **stupid**?

Has your desire for some **thing** ever caused you to do something **you regret**?

Desire **for** = Devotion to

Here's how it happens:

Discontentment

The thing that drives discontentment is *awareness*. We go from "I didn't even know that existed" to "I need that!".

Greed

The **assumption** that it's all for my **consumption**.

Greed strengthens desire's grip. When it's all gone, you keep spending. Greed is an appetite.

Debt

I want has the potential to rob you of happiness. *I owe* will rob you of happiness.

Don't trade your **peace** for some **thing** that can't bring you peace. *I want* is better than *I owe*.

Jesus' Alternative Master

"No one can serve two masters. You cannot serve both **God** and money (Luke 16:13 NIV)."

When we combine the words of Jesus with the Scripture He endorsed, we discover two concepts that should dictate how we manage our resources: Generosity and Wisdom.

How to make your money make you happy?

Give – Save – Live

Giving will bring you **joy**.

Saving will bring you **peace**.

Living on the rest will bring you **freedom**. You don't owe.

Conclusion:

1. Money contributes to your **happiness** if you **manage** it well.
2. Money won't make you happy. Generosity and wisdom with money will.
3. That's the direction in which Jesus points.

NEXT STEPS:

- Memorize: Luke 16:13.**
- Adopt a Give-Save-Live Lifestyle.**
- Read *Financial Peace* by Dave Ramsey.**
- Come back next week for Part 5 of *What Makes You Happy*.**