

## **Heartstrings**

### **Week 2: An Evil String**

#### **1. Welcome and Introduction (Pastor Craig)**

- Welcome everyone, especially first-time visitors and online viewers.
- Acknowledge the divisive political season and its challenges for unity in the church.
- Address the three difficult topics in church: politics, sex, and money.
- Focus on the importance of voting for Biblical values.

#### **2. Transition to the Topic of Generosity**

- Money, the least talked-about subject in church, is the focus.
- Introduce the theme of generosity as stewardship, not possession.
- Emphasize generosity as a lifestyle of blessing others through sacrifice.

#### **3. Key Scriptures: 1 Timothy 6:6-10**

- Generosity and contentment as great gain.
- Discuss the dangers of loving money, which leads to temptation, destruction, and grief.
- Highlight the distinction between the neutral tool of money and the love of money as the root of evil.

#### **4. The Health and Wealth Gospel vs. True Contentment**

- Critique of the prosperity gospel that equates doing more for God with personal gain.
- True happiness is found in contentment and godliness, not material wealth.
- Use analogy: life is like a mist, and only eternal rewards matter.

#### **5. The Subtle Dangers of Money**

- Shift the focus to how money affects our integrity.
- Examples of compromised integrity, both for business owners and employees.
- Paul's warning about how love for money can lead to a compromised character and ultimately ruin.

#### **6. Generosity as a Response to Greed**

- Generosity as the antidote to the love of money and its evil roots.
- Encourage investment in Kingdom work through organizations that expand God's mission.
- Challenge listeners to evaluate their level of intentional, sacrificial generosity.

#### **7. 1 Timothy 6:11-14 - Flee from the Love of Money**

- Call to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.
- Money is not the problem; the issue arises when we turn to money as a source of life.
- Challenge the belief that wealth leads to fulfillment

## **8. Practical Application**

- Offer resources for financial help, such as budgeting assistance.
- Challenge the congregation: if they trust God, they must trust Him with their finances.
- Call to experience the joy of generosity, trusting in God's provision.

## **9. Conclusion and Prayer**

- Recap the core message: godliness with contentment is great gain.
- Lead a prayer of commitment to pursue generosity, contentment, and trust in God's provision.