

Building the Church Requires a Proper View of Riches

1 Timothy 6:17-19

We need to be rich in the things that count

1. A charge to us rich folk: 3 aspects of our life (v17-18)

- Our attitude (v17)
- Our outlook (v17)
- Our actions (v18)

2. What happens when we heed the charge (v19)

- We store up treasure
- We build a foundation for the future
- We experience real life

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. Recall a time when you received a blessing from someone's generosity. What happened? What was the effect on you?
2. What's the best experience you've had by being generous yourself? Do you feel it made a difference?
3. Of the three aspects of our life that Paul addresses in his charge to us rich folk (attitude, outlook, actions), which is the hardest for you to follow through on?
4. Where are we to set our hopes (v17)? What does that look like? Look at the following passages that speak of the New Testament idea of hope: Romans 8:18-25, Titus 2:11-14, Hebrews 6:17-20, 1 Peter 1:13 and 3:13-15, 1 John 3:2-3. How do these passages contribute to your understanding of the Christian's hope?
5. Read Acts 2:42-47. What did the early believers in that passage do with their possessions? Why doesn't Paul tell Timothy to order the rich to do the same? Is it wrong to be rich?
6. What does Paul mean by "that which is truly life" (v19)? Compare v19 with v12. Is he talking only about life in heaven? Paul uses the verb form of this same word in Philippians 1:21. How does that verse contribute to your understanding of 1 Timothy 6:19?