

**Color Code**

Yellow = Bottom line or sub point  
 Green = Illustration or elaboration  
 Blue = Transition

## to Be Rich

### Most Likely... I Week 3

**Bottom Line:** The person who is truly wealthy is blessed whether or not he has much money.

**Scripture Used:** Proverbs 10:22; Matthew 5:3-12 (sec.); 1 Tim. 6:17-19 (sec.)

How much money would you need to make per year to be rich?

## RESEARCH DONE LAST YEAR

Results were rather interesting - they found a pattern

More money, more they believed they needed to be in the 'rich' category.

### What It Takes to Be 'Rich'

The more you have, the more you need. As income goes up, so does the amount of money people think it would take to consider themselves rich.

#### Annual Income



Source: YouGov, Inc.

Problem

Where's the line?

Where do we pass the threshold? How do we know we have arrived?

Perception

## JUST THINK ABOUT THIS FOR A MINUTE

Median household income = \$60k/year

1 hr. = \$31.25 || Workers in Indonesia = \$.39/hour

Just over a min. buy coke || Someone in Zimbabwe = over an hour

This'll blow your mind: the median household in Clermont County earns enough money in a month to pay the monthly income of 268 doctors in Pakistan!

## **GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS, & BETTER NEWS (BEST NEWS)**

### **GOOD NEWS**

Car... 2 cars...house for cars...air conditioning...plumbing...kids read...books...giant food buildings...buildings, sole purpose have eat...kids bedrooms... WOW...

The good news is that the person who is most likely to be rich is you and me because we already are.

### **Opportunities**

We have an abundance of opportunities because we have an abundance of resources.

### **BAD NEWS**

Our wealth distracts us from living the life God has called us to live - we become busy chasing mo' money while neglecting ministry. With wealth comes great responsibility and with responsibility comes time.

### **Rich man and Jesus**

You can easily fall into trusting in that which you have rather than trusting in the one who gave it to you.

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19

### **BETTER NEWS/BEST NEWS**

The person who is truly wealthy is blessed whether or not he has much money.

I believe there's another way of looking at being wealthy and being rich.

### This series

Week 1 - *success doesn't mean stepping up the ladder, but it means kneeling before the Father.*

Last week - change world not by huge amounts of influence and power, but by...

This week...

## **PROVERBS 10**

Solomon is comparing righteous man and wicked man...

### **Read Proverbs 10:22**

God is one who provides

### Problem

I think Solomon is talking about something different here, though. I believe Solomon is talking about a specific kind of wealth. A specific way of being rich.

### **Read Proverbs 10:22**

-Those who are blessed by God are rich. And *he adds no sorrow to it.*

-Biggest reason why I believe he is talking about a different...

### Dr. Miki Kashtan - Psychology Today - plight of the rich

Isolation - ask themselves - anxiety (can't trust) - people envy them - shame & guilt - pressure

### **Consider these words of some of history's most wealthy people:**

*I have made many millions, but they have brought me no happiness.* - John Rockefeller.

*The care of \$200,000,000 is enough to kill anyone. There is no pleasure in it. - William H. Vanderbilt.*

*I am the most miserable man on earth. - John Jacob Astor.*

*I was happier when doing a mechanic's job. - Henry Ford.*

*Millionaires seldom smile. - Andrew Carnegie.*

## **A BETTER WAY TO BE RICH**

-Rich in the blessings of God

-For blessings of God do not have sorrow with them b/c...

And as people who are already materially wealthy, I believe it is time for us to think a different way about being truly rich.

This is my proposal:

***The person who is truly wealthy is blessed whether or not he has much money.***

In order to see what it means to be blessed, I thought it would be good for us to see what Jesus says about being blessed.

## **READ MATTHEW 5**

### **v.3**

-blessed when poor → rich when you're poor

-poor in spirit, depend on God, acknowledge your need, you are blessed and...

### **v.4**

-something amazing happens

### **v.5**

-truly rich person is gentle, meek

-when everything around us tells us the way to gain is to take, Jesus says...

### **v.6**

-truly rich person is hungry and thirsty... for the right things

- many who make it big talk about emptiness of the acquisition of \$
- They know something is missing
- the key to being truly satisfied, content, is to hunger...

**v.7**

- truly rich person is merciful - they aren't brash and controlling
- they extend mercy and mercy is extended to them

**v.8**

- truly rich person doesn't do bad business deals
- don't take advantage of others
- maintain a pure heart - they get to see God

**v.9**

- truly rich person seeks out places of strife and they make peace
- actively pursue reconciliation for relationships & situations
- as a result

**v.10**

- truly rich person is...persecuted for sake of right things
- blessed are you when you are wronged, persecuted, b/c you will be a part of...

**v.11**

- truly rich person is insulted and persecuted b/c of Jesus. Yay!

**v.12**

- truly rich person has his reward not here on earth, but in heaven.

**WE HAVE A CHOICE**

- will we look at wealth and riches as material things or will we begin to see that:

**We can be wealthy whether or not we have money**

**Will we begin to see that it is one thing to be rich in this world, but it is a whole other thing to be rich in the things of God.**

**NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU ACQUIRE, YOU'LL BE EMPTY**

We can continue to focus on: achieving more - making\_ - acquiring\_

or we can begin to focus on what it means to truly be rich.

Your: investments - house - car - phone

All the things you have strived to acquire will fail to satisfy your heart.

To be blessed by God is what it means to truly be rich.

## **HOW MUCH BETTER WOULD IT BE:**

-to know: residence in kingdom of heaven rather than...

-to be comforted when you mourn rather than

-to have inheritance of new heavens and new earth that will come where...

-to truly be satisfied rather than always striving: next thing, accomplishment, rung on ladder?

-to be called son/daughter of God rather than...

-to have a great reward in heave rather than...

## **WAYNE HUIZENGA JR.**

He found out that:

*The person who is truly wealthy is blessed whether or not he has much money.*

That to be truly rich is to be blessed by God. That to be truly rich is to have an abundant relationship with Jesus.

## **A TRIP TO THE FUTURE**

We spend our days focused on the things that will pass away rather than the things that are eternal.

## **AS PEOPLE WHO ARE ALREADY RICH**

-don't put your hope in the things you have, but in the one who provides all things

-material wealth will pass away, but there's a better thing to be rich in:

-the blessings of God

- Use your wealth for doing good
  - above all, set your mind on the things God values
  - set your eyes on the things that truly matter

The blessings of God will make you rich and the riches you will have will be accompanied with no sorrow. You won't have to deal with the trouble that comes from losing that which you have, for the blessings of God will never leave you.

## **A GREAT PLACE TO START**

Take each morning and begin your day reading a chapter of Proverbs...

As you read God's word, your mind will be oriented toward living out the life God is calling you to live.

Most likely to be rich is person who is rich in blessings of God.

- now, let's go and be blessed - value things truly matter - prioritize things of God
- approach each day w/end in mind
  - think about what we want people to say about us when we are laid to rest
- Let's begin to be rich in the things that have eternal value.

And when we do, we'll find that the person who is most likely to be rich is the person who is rich in the blessings of God. And maybe, just maybe, you'll find that the person who is most likely to be rich... is you.