

BHBC Life Group notes

6 October 2019 at 9 am and 10:30 Am

Harvest Service: Being Rich In A Different Way

Read: **1 Timothy 6:6-10 and 1 Timothy 6:17-19**

Which service did you attend?

What was the stand out moment for you?

What was the stand out moment for you in the sermon?

Matthew 6:19-21

How do we “store up treasures in heaven”?

Sunday’s sermon looked at “Being Rich In A Different Way”. Christians hold various views on wealth. During the first century context, within the Roman Empire, those who were rich usually supported a system that oppressed the vast majority of the population for the benefit of only a few.

Being a counter-cultural movement, early Christians opposed this system and envisioned a more equal distribution of material resources. This is, for instance, conveyed in the story of how believers shared their possessions in Acts 4:32-37.

There were wealthy people that were appreciated as “benefactors” in early Christianity:

Luke 8:3 and **Romans 16:2** (suggesting a person of considerable status and prosperity).

Bible passages about wealth can cause some amount of discomfort or even reprehension among church congregations, especially in first world countries which have strong materialistic orientations.

On a global scale, many of us would, after all, qualify as “rich” even if we do not see ourselves as rich. Possibly we are rich by nature of geography and economy.

Moreover, we often tend to associate personal success and happiness with material affluence. Therefore texts such as 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19 that pose questions regarding riches might be considered a challenge to our entire cultural

Now, when we talk about being rich in good deeds, we need to agree upon one foundational principal: We need to understand that we're not saved *by* good works, but we are saved *for* good works. **Ephesians 2:8-10**

Describe a time when God used you to make a difference in someone else’s life.

Matthew 5:14-16. How can your good deeds point to God and glorify Him and not you?

Acts 10:38. When you help others, do you tend to help others in the way they need it or in the way you want to give it? Explain.

We're going to be rich in good deeds in a way that we don't just give a hand out, but we give a hand up as the church for the glory of God, to lift people higher.

Matthew 5:41. What do you think it would be like for you to serve others outside of your comfort zone? How do you think it would affect you?

Hebrews 10:24-25. How have the good deeds of others from church helped you spiritually and in times of need?

How has God equipped you with talents and abilities to carry out good works?

You have spiritual gifts that God wants to be used in his church, for his church, and through his church. Talk about what you're doing or want to do to serve in the church, through the church and for the church - to make a difference.

How are Christians rich in a different way? (Because we have more, we will give more and do more and that is how to be rich at what matters most. That is the kind of church that we will be for the glory of God.)

Matthew 9:35-38

Matthew 28:16-20

Matthew 6:19-24

Acts 4:32-35