**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. June 17, 2018**

**A Warning to the Rich**

James 5:1-6

**Key truth:** How we earn and spend money says a lot about our discipleship to Jesus.

**What God says about wealth**

1. Possessing wealth doesn’t make you an adversary of God.

2. God doesn’t care about your net worth, but rather your

 self-worth. Luke 12:13-15

3. How you gain your wealth is important to God.

 Proverbs 13:11, Luke 3:10-14

**What’s the Problem?**

 1. They were guilty of hoarding their wealth. Luke 12:16-21

 2. They had gotten rich by cheating their employees.

 Leviticus 19:13, Deuteronomy 24:14-24, Malachi 3:5

 3. They live to fulfill their own greed. Ezekiel 16:49

 4. They use their wealth to subvert justice.

**How to properly Handle Wealth**

1. Be humble about your wealth, it all belongs to God.

2. Don’t trust in wealth put your faith in God.

 Proverbs 11:28, Psalm 62:10, Ecclesiastes 4:8

3. Be generous with your wealth. 1 Timothy 6:17-19

4. Honor God with your wealth. Proverbs 3:9

**How to properly Pursue Wealth**

1. Get a job. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

2. Seek God over money. Luke 12:22-31, 1 Timothy 6:6-10

3. Be content with what God has provided. Psalm 37:16,

 Proverbs 15:16-17

4. Live within your means. Proverbs 30:7-9

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Bring your life and finances in alignment with God’s will and be more concerned with building God’s eternal kingdom than your temporary one.

**Food For Thought**

1. This weekend, Pastor Felton cautioned us to not be consumed by wealth and to trust God over money. What comfort could the following verses give to someone who has trouble trusting God in the area of finances?

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

Matthew 6:25-26

Philippians 4:19

2. Greed can easily be overlooked and is often not viewed to be as “bad” as other sins. What’s your response to God placing greed in the same category as the other sins in the following verses?

Romans 1:29-31

Ephesians 5:3

Colossians 3:5

Why do you think God considers greed as serious as the other sins?

3. Many of us have a natural tendency to think acquiring more things will help us feel better and more complete. God frequently challenges this sort of thinking by challenging us to be content with what we have.

How could the following verses help someone who finds themselves continuously thinking life would be better “if I only had \_\_\_\_\_?”

Philippians 4:10-13

Hebrews 13:5

Matthew 6:33