

Money Matters 101

Quarterly Study

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE FOR STUDY 10

Money Isn't Prestige

Real prestige can only come from God.

For many of us, how much we make, how much we have saved, or the kinds of things we own are indicators of what we're worth. However, God infuses us with real prestige when we invest our money compassionately.

Lesson #10

Scripture:

Luke 12:16–21; 21:1–4; James 2:1–5



PART 1

Identify the Current Issue

What is your status symbol? The clothes you wear, the car you drive, the home and neighborhood you live in, the number of zeroes in your paycheck? What some of us have in our wallet isn't just money, but prestige. Sometimes we are trying to impress others—to show that we are worthwhile, important, successful people to be admired and accepted. Other times it's ourselves that we're trying to impress: *I feel better about myself when I make it to the next level of income, or when I pull into the driveway of a nice, big house on the right street, or when I see a closet full of clothes with designer labels.* Whether I'm trying to make a statement with my stuff or paycheck to somebody else or to myself, it's because I see money as prestige and popularity.

PART 2

Discover the Eternal Principles

Teaching point one: We need to find our sense of prestige in God rather than possessions.

Teaching point two: We need to focus on God's mission for our lives rather than maintaining a lifestyle.

Teaching point three: We need to see others through God's eyes rather than how the world looks at them.

PART 3

Apply Your Findings

Is your self-image and esteem anchored to how God sees you, or does it float up and down depending on your weight, the amount in your checking account, or how many compliments you receive (or don't receive)? Do you see others as God sees them, as treasured eternal beings? Or do you judge others by the clothes they wear, the cars they drive, or where they live?



NewThing