



## Week 3: Roadblocks to Giving

### INTRODUCTION

The single greatest roadblock to generous giving is the belief that our material wealth will last forever. We've all played the game before, "What would I do with unlimited money?" This desire is so strong that modern advertising, gambling, and any number of late night infomercials are built around it. But if you were to actually accomplish it, the question must be asked, do you ultimately own your possessions, or do they own you?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think of a possession that you had earlier in your life that you treasured at that time, perhaps 10 years or more ago. What happened to that item? All of our things eventually end up in a dump somewhere, what's your reaction to that?
2. Read the statistics on Page 52 as well as the quotes on pages 52-53 in the Treasure Principle. What are your reactions to these statements? Do you agree or disagree?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 5:10-15 with your group, as well as the commentary on Pages 55-56 of Treasure Principle. Choose one of these statements that been especially evident in your experience. How does this help explain the emptiness of materialism?
4. Given that Solomon is believed to be the wealthiest man who ever lived and he found no joy in it, why do virtually all people believe that more wealth and possessions will bring them meaning, happiness, security, and contentment?
5. Think about your life and the specific ways you are lured by the dream world of materialism. How, exactly, does giving affect your material urges, both in the short run and in the long run?

### MOVING FORWARD

We are all at various levels of "wakefulness" or awareness of God's Truth. Ask God this week to show you to what extent you are still "chasing the wind" and to give you the wisdom to understand your own heart and for the life changes he desires for you.

Remember this week, "I should live for the line and not the dot" & "The only cure to materialism is generosity."

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12:15