



#### **Part 4: The Key to Financial Freedom**

We live in one of the most affluent cultures in history and yet financial freedom seems to be elusive to most of us. Why is that? Why does it seem that we struggle to breakthrough to financial freedom? Maybe the reason has nothing to do with money at all. Maybe we've been chasing after the wrong kind of freedom.

**Bottom Line:** Financial freedom comes through contentment.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. When in your life have you been the most content? Why do you think we struggle with being content?
2. How would the average American define what it means to be financially free?
3. **Read 1 Timothy 6:6-11.** How would the Apostle Paul define financial freedom?
  - a. In verses 6-8, Paul makes some simple statements with which many would agree. Why does he remind us that we enter life broke and we leave this life broke (v. 7)? How can you develop and grow in contentment?
  - b. Do you think Paul is overstating his case in verses 9-10? Why or why not? How have you seen the truth of these verses played out in real life?
  - c. How can you pursue the things Paul lists in verse 11? Why is it important to do so?
4. **Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19.** What are the benefits of being rich in good deeds, generosity, and sharing with others?
  - a. Why is it so easy for us to trust in our possessions, accomplishments, or abilities?
  - b. How can you guard against placing too much stock in your personal possessions?
  - c. How can we lay up treasures in Heaven (cf. **Matthew 6:19-21**).
5. How do we manage the tension of enjoying some luxuries (v. 17) against the trappings of materialism (v. 9)? Do your current spending habits increase or decrease your capacity to live generously?
6. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you? How can the group pray for or encourage you this week?

\*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.