

**Debt**

9-12-18

1967 college freshman were surveyed and asked this question: would you rather have a meaningful philosophy in life, or be financially independent? What would you guess their answer would be? In 1967 it was a meaningful philosophy in life; that changed in the late 80’s. We have become a nation of “I want”:

* Bigger and newer home
* New cars
* Fancy vacations
* Second homes
* The best in everything

The result has been families are incurring more and more debt, to get what they think they want.   
Listen to Solomon’s advice: **Ecclesiastes 5:10-20**

**Two Value systems:**

* A worldly value system
* God centered value system

**How does debt affect us?**

Debt creates or fosters stress

Debt creates division or blame

Debt robs your family (vacations, fun, the opportunity to de-stress)

Debt does not allow you to take advantage of opportunities

Debt means you pay for things more than once

Debt is born out of discontentment

**Truth’s about Money**

* Chokes out spiritual truth.  
  Matthew 13:22
* Causes some to set their hopes on the wrong things.  
  1Tim.6:17
* Causes us to pursue things that don’t last.  
  Matt. 6:19-21
* Cash can become our master   
  Matt. 6:24
* We forget that it’s God who gives the power to make wealth.  
  Deut. 8:18
* Put God to the test. - Malachi 3:8

Questions:

* How does “debt”, affect us?
* What affects did you observe debt having on your family growing up?
* How have you seen it affect others?
* How can debt affect marriages? What issues do debts bring out?
* What are you teaching your kids about debt?
* Why is delayed gratification so difficult for us to accept?