

# NOTES ON TODAY'S TOPIC.

## Luke 18:18-23; 19:1-8 Cash and the Christian (2) Generosity



### Two rich men encounter Jesus

- difference is extent to which their material security bolstered their moral pride

*J D Rockefeller: the poorest man I know is the man who has nothing but money*

### So what's the answer?

1. Loosen your grip ... and start trusting God
2. Receive daily ... and start adoring God
3. Give generously ... and start enjoying God

*Rick Warren: 'Everytime I give I break the grip of materialism in my life'*

### How?

A tenth plus

### JC Half Year Budget Update July 2010

(the following are projections of costs and income based on Jan - June actuals)

£000s

105	<b>Ministry costs</b> (ministry staff, events, outreach, mission giving)
85	Current giving by congregation
20	Current shortfall
65	<b>Proposed growth in Ministry Costs</b>
85	Current shortfall + proposed growth
70	<b>Operational costs</b> (Admin staff, office costs, cleaning, building upkeep)
60	Current rental income
10	Current shortfall
25	<b>Building costs</b> (Repairs, insurance, maintenance)
25	Current income from St James Clerkenwell Trust

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### Questions for further thought in Life Groups this week.

1. Why did the rich ruler go away so sad from Jesus in Lk 18? Do you think wealth stops people today responding to Jesus?
2. Discuss further the idea that 'material security bolsters moral pride.'
3. Why was Zacchaeus so radically transformed in Luke 19?
4. What things is God calling you to loosen your grip on that are stopping you trusting him with all your heart? Discuss practical ways of helping each other loosen grip.
5. How can you develop a practice of delighting in the generosity and riches of God?
6. Study 2 Corinthians 8 & 9. What reasons does Paul give for generosity? What impact does the grace of generosity have for the giver and for the receivers?
7. Next Sunday is Gift Sunday when we ask everyone who sees JC as their church to 1. Consider their regular pledge to the finances of JC and 2. Join in the joy of giving an extra gift to cover our current shortfall and build a fund to take on an additional staff member. Please discuss how you can help each other in the grace of giving.