Is Loving Money Really That Evil? *Paul Tripp*

How young were you when you first learned that famous verse about money? Whether or not you were raised in Sunday School, almost every culture recognizes some version of this biblical maxim:

"For the love of money is a **root of all kinds of evils.**" (1 Timothy 6:10, ESV, emphasis mine)

I struggled with theology for a while; it doesn't seem accurate. When you look at the full range of all the evils in the world and the damage that different sins cause, it looks as if there should be a list of things more evil than loving money.

To understand why loving money is so potentially evil, it's essential to read the verse in its full context and then unpack the spiritual dynamics surrounding it.

"Godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." (1 Timothy 6:6-10)

There are three reasons why loving money is indeed a root of all kinds of evils: **contentment, identity, and worship.**

Reflection Questions

1. Where are you experiencing levels of discontent in your life? Is there evidence in your behavior that reveals a deeper heart issue?

2. How can you grow in a more profound satisfaction of Christ, right here, right now? Be specific.

3. How does the promise of eternity address your current discontent?

4. How can the promise of eternity help you to desire God more deeply?

5. How can you practically use your finances in the coming days, weeks, and months to live out the two Great Commandments? What other heart issues might you need to address that could cause you to stray from loving God and loving your neighbor?