

**May 3, 2015**

**Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19**

**“Is Capitalism Christian?”**

**Sermon Series: “Questions Our Youth Are Asking”**

- 1. Question Of The Day:** Where does western society's consumerist, and capitalistic tendencies fit in a Christian lifestyle/worldview? Would it not be better to live in poverty, yet in joy, than living richly on earth, and not in heaven?
- 2. Small Group Discussion** (4-5 minutes):
- 3. Scripture Reading:** 1 Timothy 6:6-10,17-19 (Zaiyou Chen)
- 4. Message**

**What is Capitalism?:** Capitalism is an economic system [theory] and a mode of production in which trade, industries, and the means of production are largely or entirely privately owned and operated for profit. Central characteristics of capitalism include private property, capital accumulation, wage labour and, in many models, competitive markets ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capitalism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capitalism))

### **1. When Is Enough Enough?**

“But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that” (verses 6-8).

## **2. Who Do You Love?**

“Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs...” (verses 9-10).

## **3. Who Is Your God?**

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment” (verse 17).

“In God we trust” (??)

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money” (Matthew 6:24).

## **4. What's The Bottom Line?**

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life” (verses 18-19).

## **5. How Can The Bible Say These Things?**

“...the life that is truly life” (2 Timothy 6:19)

“...an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade...kept in heaven for you” (1 Peter 1:4).

“He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—  
how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”  
(Romans 8:32).