

These notes are designed to be used by small groups on Zoom, by members of a family or by a couple of friends on the telephone. They are based on our Sunday sermons and are designed to help us all think through the issues raised about “God in my Everything”. You will get the most out of them if you have heard the sermon first.

## Sermon Date

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July (Ian Sweeney)

## Bible Passages

Philippians 4:10-20. Also, parts of Luke 16:13

## Theme & Introduction

Jesus said money will either become a master or a servant. Essentially, his concern is for what lies behind money and the lure it has on our hearts. How do we become like Paul in relation to money and find contentment in all situations?

## Questions

1. Ian motioned we find it hard to talk about money, especially in church. Is this true? Why do you think this is?
2. Research suggests that we have more access to what society believes makes us happy, yet, statistically we live in a more depressed and isolated time than ever before. Do you think this is true? If so, why do you think this is?
3. Read Philippians 4:12. Paul uses the word *learned* when explaining how he came to a place of contentment. The original language behind this word implies *work*. Do you think there are ways in which we can work towards a similar place? Should we work (or is this solely the role of grace/Holy Spirit)?
4. Ken Shigemitsu suggests three areas in which we can grow in our faith in relation to money.
  - **Giving.** Giving in the NT mainly results in a spiritual blessing which strengthens our trust in God.
  - **Examen prayer.** To pray over our financial decisions, asking God to expose unhealthy desires)
  - **Simplifying our life (possible minimalism).** Decluttering unnecessary items from our lives. Minimising worries and time.

Could you explore any of these practices in more detail and add them to your rule of life?