

## APPLICATION

I suggest there is no better way for us to finish a study of such a marvelous letter than with a passage like this. It reminds us of the purpose of the letter and demands of us some significant and serious application.

Without knowing your specific situation, chances are extremely good that because you live here in America, drive a car, and have more than one pair of shoes you are among the richest percentile of humans on the planet.

How might this relative wealth lead you to pride and conceit?

How might you be fixing your hope on riches?

Are you battling this destructive pull with a devotion to good works?

Acts of generosity?

An eagerness to give and share?

How has God changed you through our study of the whole letter?

What are some specific application points God has placed on your heart throughout the rest of First Timothy?

## HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Throughout this series we've discussed the four steps in Bible Study Methods: *Observation, Interpretation, Correlation* and *Application*. See the online resource for a full explanation of these steps.

Okay, after all of this discussion where in the world do I start? How, for instance, are we supposed to practically store up treasures for the future so that we may experience true life? **Step One** is the **Only Step** and therefore the most important: **Schedule time to enjoy God's Word.**

That's all you really have to do. If you are IN the Bible, then God's Word will do God's Work. Combine simple *presence* with a conscious *intention* to study and apply it well and...well, that's all you really need. These two ingredients: *presence* and *intention* combine to form a marvelous explosion of truth and grace in the life of the believer. Get started. Get in it.

# FIRST TIMOTHY

## 6:17-21

JULY 17, 2011

RESOURCE :

HOW TO  
STUDY  
THE BIBLE

The FULL version of this resource is now available online at our website under the *Messages* tab. In it you will find help through all four steps of good Bible Study Methods. I pray you find joy in your Bible.

# FIRST TIMOTHY 6:17-21

## THE RICH LIFE OF GRACE

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

This passage is a challenging close to a marvelous letter. The beauty of this passage stems from a masterful degree of style and word-play. For instance, circle any words or phrases in this section that are synonymous with wealth or gain. What do you notice?

**6:17-18**—The original word order of this verse reflects this stylistic emphasis: *“The rich ones in this present time, instruct not to...”* This root word for “rich” is then repeated three more times.

Note the contrast between the *“uncertainty of riches”* and *“God.”* The context assumes that the reader knows that God is the *“Father of Lights, in whom there is no variation or shifting shadow”* (**James 1:17**), and that *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever”* (**Hebrews 13:8**); *“The Glory of Israel will not lie or change His mind, He is not a man that He should change His mind”* (**1 Samuel 15:29**); *“The LORD is the one who goes ahead of you, He will be with you; He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed”* (**Deuteronomy 31:8**). God is not uncertain.

**6:19**—When you read this verse, do any specific words of Jesus come to mind? What about **Matthew 6:19-21**?

*“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart is also.”*

The end of **1 Timothy 6:19** has been a favorite NT passage of mine for many long years now. Think about it with me. What does it mean for these people to *“take hold of that which is life indeed”*?

What does this statement say about life? Where is life found? Where is life not found? How do we grab a hold of true life?

**6:20-21**—There can be no greater or simpler summary statement for the letter of **First Timothy**. It reminds us of the two-fold problem of the church in Ephesus (*worldly and empty chatter, opposing arguments, thus gone astray from the faith*) and the recipe for victory (*grace be with you*).

And Faith Bible Church...grace be with you also. This is **First Timothy**.

For more background and helps on First Timothy, go to our site [faithbibleonline.org](http://faithbibleonline.org) under the **Messages** tab for the **First Timothy Tool Kit**.

