



# BREAK OUT

# MONEY

# TRAP

# ESCAPE ROOM

***Reflection and discussion***

Can you give a real life example of this?

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.



1 Timothy 6:9 (NIV)

1. What was the easiest clue?

The hardest

2. How did you work together well?

3. What would make it easier to work together next time?

4. What one thing would you do differently next time?

5. Read Luke 19:8-10 Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Why did Jesus react this way to Zacchaeus's cheerful willingness to part with his money? Why did He link it to Zacchaeus's salvation from sin? Had money been a trap to Zacchaeus? Why or why not?



6. Read Matthew 19:21-26 (The Rich Young Ruler) Seemed to be a perfect candidate for discipleship: humble, successful, showing great interest in Jesus, outwardly moral, but knowing he needed more Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

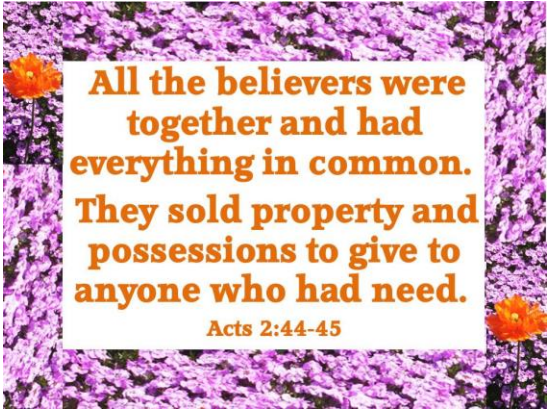
6. Was the rich young ruler in a money trap? Why or why not? What does Jesus' encounter with the rich young ruler teach us about true conversion and salvation? Does Jesus call on all converts to sell everything they have? If not, what does this story say to every Christian?

7. Read Acts 19:19 (Ephesian magicians and true conversion) A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to 50,000 drachmas. (a drachma is a day's wage; so this amounts to about 137 year's wages or a little less than the wages earned by fourteen men over ten years)

What does this teach about true conversion? What things might you need to get rid of in your life? How does this compare to the rich young ruler?

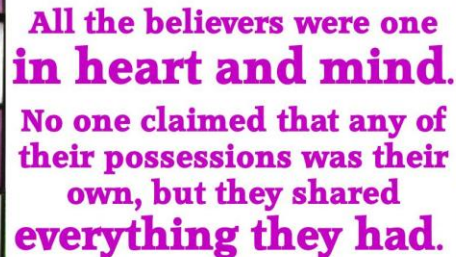
8. Read these accounts of the early church:  
Acts 2:44-45, Acts 4:32, Acts 4:34-37.

What is the relationship between our spiritual condition and our attitude and actions concerning money and possessions?



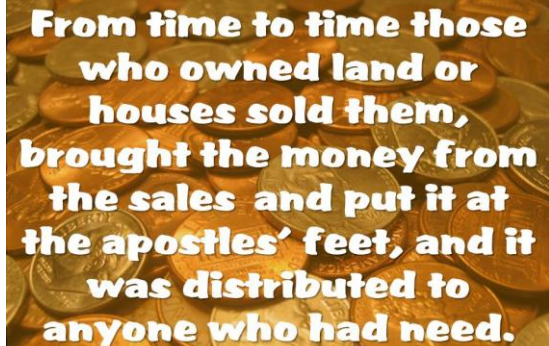
**All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.**

Acts 2:44-45



**All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.**

Acts 4: 32



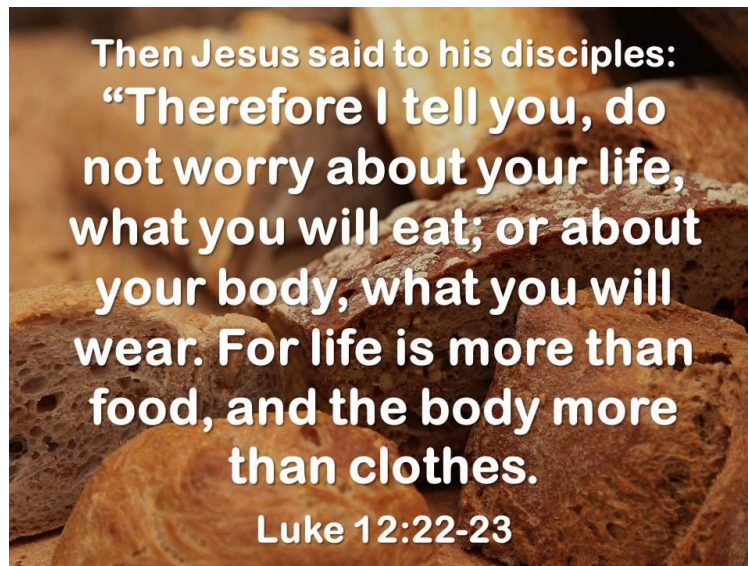
**From time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.**

Acts 4: 34-35



9. Read Mark 12:41-44, Luke 12:15-21 and compare the poor widow and rich fool.

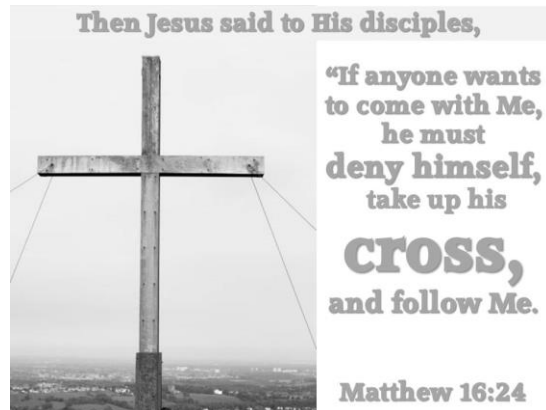
What does it mean to be "rich toward God" (see Luke 12:21)? How do these scriptures relate to "God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)



9b. What might a worldly financial planner have said to the 2 of them? How does that differ from what Jesus said? Which today would be most likely to serve on a church or Christian board of directors? Would God appoint the same people?

Why does Jesus hold the widow up as an example of giving? Why does Jesus call the rich man a fool? Was the rich man in a money trap?

10. Read Matthew 16:24-26. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? How much is your soul worth? What can a man give in exchange for his soul?



**For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but**



**whoever loses his life because of Me will find it.**



**What will it benefit a man if he gains the whole world yet loses his life? Or what will a man give in exchange for his life?**

Matthew 16:26

11. Money can be a great opportunity and tool, but it can also be a terrible temptation and a significant stumbling block.

With money, we can accomplish great things for God, or we can lose sight of our dependence on God and rely instead on our abilities and focus on our own selfish interests and desires.

Money is the means to an end—not the end in itself. Agree or disagree?

12. In the parables of the sower (see references in escape room or next slide), the seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

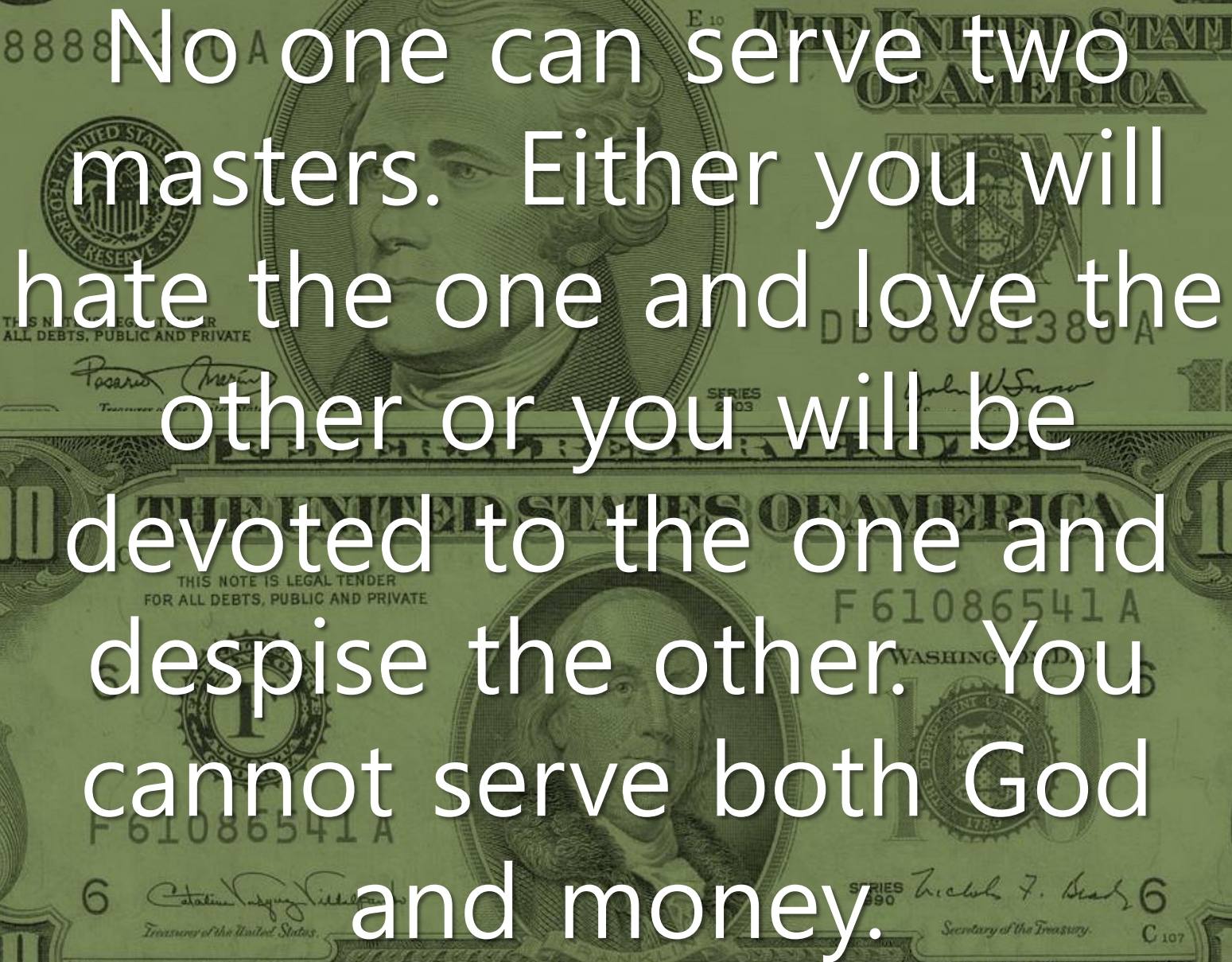
What worries you? What gives you pleasure? How can these 2 things and riches hinder you as a Jesus follower?



Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Mark 4:18-19

The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. Matthew 20:22

The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. Luke 8:14



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.

Luke 16:13

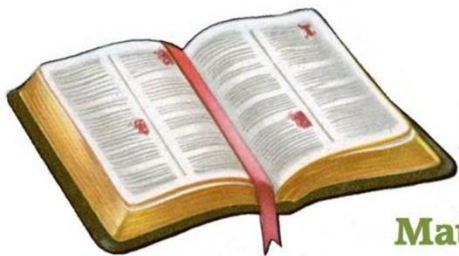


Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth where moths and vermin destroy and thieves break in and steal.



Matthew 6:19

No one can be a slave of two masters, since either he will hate one and **love** the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot be slaves of **God** and of money.



Matthew 6:24



Since we entered the world penniless and will leave it penniless, if we have bread on the table and shoes on our feet, that's enough.



1 Timothy 6:8 (The Message)

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.

1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV)

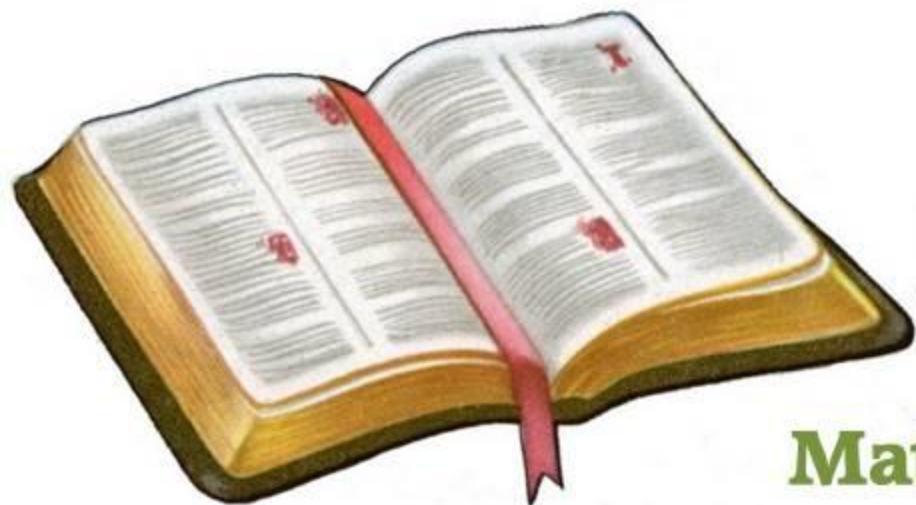


Your life should be free from the **love** of money.

Hebrews 13:5a



**No one can be a slave of two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot be slaves of God and of money.**



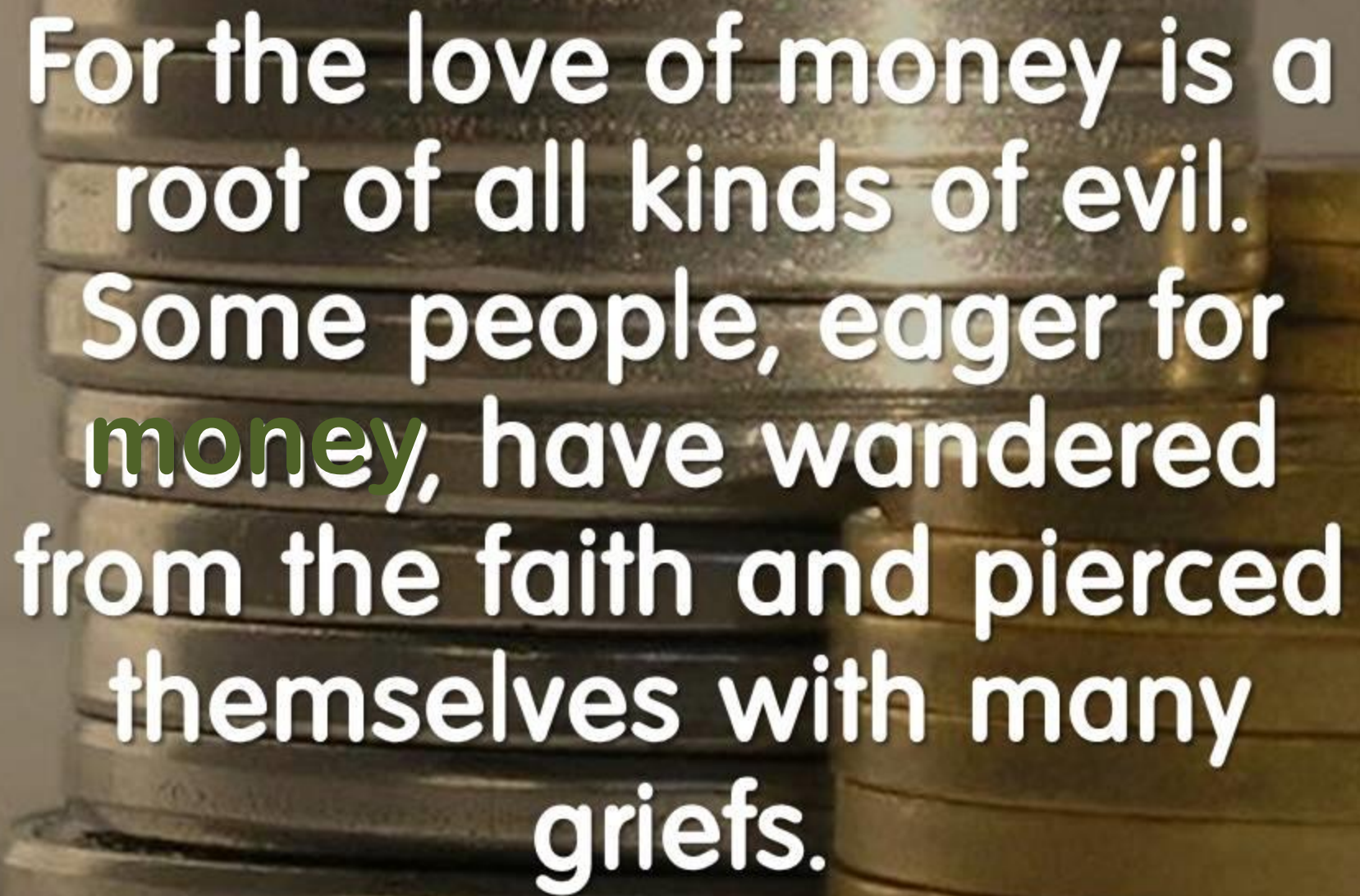
**Matthew 6:24**



Since we entered the world  
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1 Timothy 6:8 (The Message)

The background of the image shows two stacks of coins. The stack on the left is taller and consists of silver-colored coins. The stack on the right is shorter and consists of gold-colored coins. The text is overlaid on these stacks.

For the love of money is a  
root of all kinds of evil.  
Some people, eager for  
**money**, have wandered  
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1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV)



A heart shape is formed by many 20 Euro coins, arranged in a circular pattern with a slight indentation at the top. The coins are silver and gold in color, with the number '20' visible on many of them. The heart is centered on a white background.

**Your life should  
be free from  
the **love** of  
money.**

**Hebrews 13:5a**

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

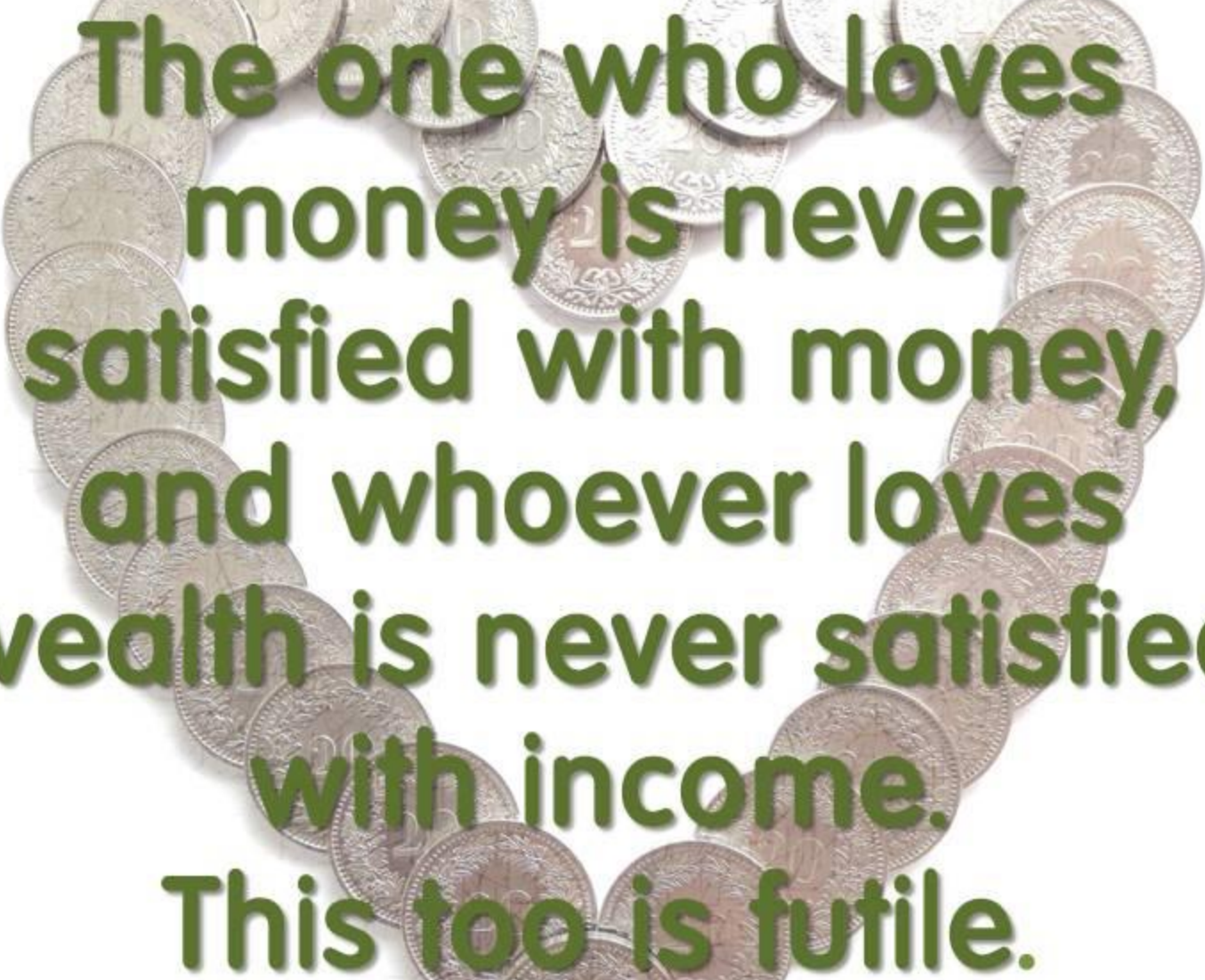
1 Timothy 6:10



The one who loves money is never satisfied with money, and whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with income. This too is futile.

Ecclesiastes 5:10





**The one who loves  
money is never  
satisfied with money,  
and whoever loves  
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with income.  
This too is futile.**

**Ecclesiastes 5:10**