

"We lay down no rules or regulations, for either ourselves or others. Yet we resolve to renounce waste and oppose extravagance in personal living, clothing and housing, travel and church buildings. We also accept the distinction between necessities and luxuries, creative hobbies and empty status symbols, modesty and vanity, occasional celebrations and normal routine, and between the service of God and slavery to fashion. Where to draw the line requires conscientious thought and decision by us, together with members of our family."

"As we do this, we will accept the distinction between necessities and luxuries, for we will not despise the gifts God has given us (1 Timothy 4:4-5) nor the obligation to be responsible for our own family (1 Timothy 5:8). We will learn to discern between creative hobbies and empty status symbols, for we recognize both the legitimacy of recreational activities on the one hand, and on the other the warnings of Jesus about the hunger for honor and deference (Mark 12:38,39), as in the Pharisees who "loved praise from men more than praise from God" (John 12:43). How to discriminate between modesty and vanity and between occasional celebrations and normal routine can be a matter for discussion with people outside the family circle as well as within it. A supportive context for living this kind of life-style is indispensable. Sociologists have discovered that people tend to accept the beliefs and values of the people with whom they live. There was a very strong temptation in the West in the 1970s to keep up with the trends, but Christians should be able to perceive the difference between the service of God and slavery to fashion. These five distinctions deserve to be pondered carefully. They show that the Consultation had no mind to reject the good gifts of a good Creator, and no wish to impose on themselves or others a drab or joyless asceticism."

Sunday, April 26, 2009  
6:00pm

Money, Money, Money  
Spending Money  
Jim Samra



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*Spending Money*

Jim Samra

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I. Having the Right Attitude Toward Possessions  
A. Too Much vs. Right Amount

B. Sharing Possessions

C. Personal Use vs. "Business" Use

D. Possessions & Identity

E. A Suggestion for Children

II. What Should We Spend Money On?

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

8)

III. Making Decisions About Spending

A. Erring the Right Way

B. Just Because You Can

C. Budgeting

D. Social Setting

E. Judgement Day

F. Avoid the Extremes *(see quotes on back)*