

## Why Stuff Fails

October 7, 2012

[1 Timothy 6:6-10](#)



*Is having nice things bad? No. Is working hard and earning a significant paycheck wrong? No. However, striving for more will only create a desire for more; and the thirst for more can never be quenched by trying to grasp for more. We must learn how to be content with what we have. Remember, money is not the issue; but the love of money will destroy you.*

### Consider & Discuss

1. What is your most prized possession? How did you acquire it? Why is it so important to you?
2. If you could make one change to your standard of living, what would it be?
3. Can you think of a time when you gave generously or sacrificially and found it to be a real blessing to do so?
4. Read [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#). How would you summarize Paul's point in this passage?
5. What do you think of the idea that we should be content with food and clothing (verse 8)? Is that realistic? Why could it be difficult to achieve that kind of contentment?
6. Is there a standard of living that is too high for a Christ-follower? If so, how can we know where the line is? If not, how can you justify that some people live in luxury while others are starving?
7. How can we know if we've crossed the line between contentment and loving money? Why do you think loving money is so dangerous?

### Live It

1. If you're not giving regularly to God's work, whether through Renaissance or elsewhere, prayerfully consider starting to do so this week.
2. Pray about how you can increase your giving to God's work. Discuss it with your family or anyone else to whom you are financially tied.
3. Take the time to prayerfully and honestly examine your lifestyle. Ask God to show you if there are any areas in which you need to make changes, either because you've fallen into the trap of materialism or because you'll be better able to give to those in need.