

BE RICH

WEEK 1: THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

Each year we join other partner churches in the North Point Partner network around the world to invest and serve our local communities. Although we do this throughout the year, this time of the year is like the start of what we do throughout the year. We take 2-3 weeks to explain what local non-profit organizations we're partnering with this year and how we can support them with our money and time.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you were to make a list of world-changing events so far in your lifetime, what events would make the list? Why do we ask end time questions when world-changing events occur? Why do we have a fascination with end times?
2. To the point of today's message, these were not the questions first-century Christians asked when faced with similar circumstances. Do Americans have a low pain threshold? How is our culture becoming more rights than responsibility driven?
3. So what is the most important question we should be asking when the world seems to be falling apart—or our world seems to be falling apart? The New Testament makes it clear what kind of questions the early church asked when faced with a problem they couldn't solve and a natural disaster that (for whatever reason) God chose not to withhold. Take a moment to read **Acts 7:54-8:4**.
 - How did Jesus' crucifixion open the door for persecution of His followers?
 - Who was first martyr of Jesus' movement? What was the reason for his stoning?
 - After Stephen's death, what was the church up against? How did they respond?
 - Why is the church's response and dispersion so significant?
4. Luke continues the true story in **Acts 11:19-30**. Take a moment to read those verses.
 - What kept the early church moving?
 - How did the early church interpret persecution?
 - How did the church in Antioch lean into the Gospel?
 - Sending relief is customary today but then it was not commendable. You did favors in hopes of receiving favors. So how did it go from not commendable to being customary?
5. This new kind of generosity was called *caritas*, which is giving to relieve the physical or financial distress of others without expecting anything in return. Take a moment to read **1 Timothy 6:17-19**.
 - How is trusting the means over the Maker a mistake?
 - How is generosity a reflection of the Gospel?
 - What would you make a big difference for you? What would help you make a big difference?

MOVING FORWARD

When you make a financial donation to Be Rich, every penny supports the needs and efforts of these organizations. Your contribution will fund projects that are game changers for our nonprofits and life changers for the people they serve. Together, we can make a difference! We invite you to visit southridge.us/berich.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Teach those **who are rich in this world** not to be proud and **not to trust in their money**, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to **use their money to do good**. They should **be rich in good works and generous** to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NLT)