



# LEARNING TO LEAD

POLICING YOUR MOTIVES

ACTS 20:33-35

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • September 9 & 10, 2023 • Acts, week 103 • Msg. 23-27

**Acts 20:33** *I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.*

**34** *You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. 35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."*  
(ESV)

1. Prayerfully \_\_\_\_\_ (v.33)

2. Consistently \_\_\_\_\_ (v.34)

3. Intentionally \_\_\_\_\_ (v.35)

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Psalm 139:23-24**. How would you explain to a new Christian the work of becoming increasingly aware of one's motives? How would you go about helping him be more honest with God about why he does what he does?
2. Read **1 Timothy 6:3-10** and **Matthew 6:24**. Why does it make sense that a life driven by desires to secure more riches and material wealth will never be truly useful to advance the spiritual growth and maturity of God's people?
3. Read **Romans 1:28-29**. Define "covetousness" (see Exodus 20:17). Why do you think God included this particular sin in the Romans' list of what is described as a "debased" mind? Why is it such a big deal?
4. Read **1 Corinthians 15:10**. How does Paul's work ethic, in his tentmaking job and in all his ministries, motivate you to make sure "God's grace" toward you is "not in vain?"
5. Read **2 Corinthians 8:9**. How would you grade the state of your generosity? What can you do to imitate more of Christ's excelling generosity for the good of his people?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 21-37 – **Shared Struggle & Mutual Aid**  
Msg. 19-36 – **The Unrivaled Fellowship of God's Church**  
Msg. 17-04 – **Godliness, Greed, & God's Word**  
Msg. 07-35 – **Contentment Instead of Materialism**  
Msg. 19-41 – **Reflecting Christ's Inexpressible Gift**  
Msg. 10-33 – **Strategic Rest and a Godly Work Ethic**  
Msg. 14-02 – **Exceptional Love with Exceptional Motives**

## Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.17-18 & 2Cor.2  
Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.19-20 & 2Cor.3  
Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.21-22 & 2Cor.4  
Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.23-24 & 2Cor.5  
Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.25-27 & 2Cor.6  
Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.28-29 & 2Cor.7  
Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>.....Prov.30-31 & 2Cor.8  
Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.....Ecc.1-3 & 2Cor.9

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Henry, Carl F. H. "The Christian View of Work" in **Aspects of Christian Social Ethics**. Eerdmans, 1964.  
Fabarez, Mike. **Envy: A Big Problem You Didn't Know You Had**. Moody Publishing, 2023.  
Alcorn, Randy. **Money, Possessions, and Eternity**. Tyndale House, 2003.  
Sherman, Doug and William Hendricks. **Your Work Matters to God**. NavPress, 1987.  
Beale, G. K. **We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry**. InterVarsity Press, 2008.  
Ryken, Leland. **Redeeming the Time: A Christian Approach to Work and Leisure**. Baker, 1995.  
Grudem, Wayne. **Business to the Glory of God: The Bible on the Moral Goodness of Business**. Crossway, 2003.  
Mohler, Albert. **Words from the Fire: Hearing the Voice of God in the 10 Commandments**. Moody Publishers, 2009.  
DeYoung, Kevin. **The 10 Commandments: What They Mean & Why We Should Obey Them**. Crossway, 2018.  
Bahnsen, David L. **There's No Free Lunch: 250 Economic Truths**. Post Hill Press, 2021.  
Blomberg, Craig L. **Neither Poverty nor Riches: A Biblical Theology of Possessions**. InterVarsity, 1999.  
Bernbaum, John and Simon Steer. **Why Work? Careers and Employment in Biblical Perspective**. Baker Books, 1986.  
Colson, Chuck and Jack Eckerd. **Why America Doesn't Work**. Word Publishing, 1991.