

# **FAST Lesson 3B: A Real Man leads with a Servant's Heart – Earning Money**

John Kain, 2009

- I. The earning of money by hard work and wise investing is good when our work does not overwhelm other priorities, and when we use money for good purposes.
- II. We should work hard, but not make our work an addiction. A balanced view of work, otherwise known as our “work ethic,” is important. If men are able to work, they should do so. “The lazy are not upright people, and upright people are not lazy.”
- III. Good uses of money include paying our bills on time, giving generously, saving for retirement or emergencies, and self improvement (education and nutrition).
- IV. Bad uses of money include over-indulgences, waste, any “spending beyond our means,” and hoarding or storing away money in ways that no one ever benefits.
- V. It is important to God that we balance hard work with contentment – the feeling of calm satisfaction that comes from living within our means and not craving more than we can afford.
- VI. What kills our contentment? TV advertising, shopping, internet ads, comparing ourselves to others. Real men decide when “enough is enough” for their particular life situations, and live within their means.

“Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? **A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest - and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.**” (Proverbs 6: 6-11)

“The way of the sluggard is blocked with thorns, but the path of the upright is a highway.” (Proverbs 15:19)

The sluggard's craving will be the death of him, because his hands refuse to work. (Proverbs 21:25)

**“Your gold and silver are corroded.** Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have **hoarded wealth** in the last days.” (James 5:3)

**“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have,** because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” (Hebrews 13:5)

“I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation,** whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.” (Philippians 4:11-12)