



## What Makes You Happy?

Pastor Tim

January 19/20, 2019

**Title:** What Make You Happy? - More

**Bible Text:** this message utilizes multiple texts from Creation to Jesus' parables.

**Main Thought:** Deep Down Everyone Knows That More ≠ Happiness But No One Is Talking About Why. We are going to do a deep dive into the "Why?"

### **Going Deeper Questions:**

1. On as light-hearted a note as possible, talk about a time/circumstance when advertising or peer pressure or some other "force" convinced you that you needed to purchase "something" in order to be happy. If possible talk about both sides to the topic – those times when you quite enjoyed what you bought and those times when you realized quickly that it wasn't at all what you were hoping for.
2. The message plunged almost immediately to the very serious thought that the seeds of "more" come from a very dark place and they are deeply embedded in each of us. It included the story of the Fall and how Adam and Eve had it all, except for access to one tree, and it still wasn't enough. Why is forbidden fruit so alluring to us? Why such a strong pull to have more than we have – of anything.
3. The message developed the thought that the quest for more isn't about advertising or materialism per se, nor is it even about managing our resources better, but that at its core it is a spiritual issue. Discuss how simultaneously having "stuff" can be a blessing but our quest for "more stuff" can be sinful/harmful/destructive?
4. A central part of the message dealt with the concept that "more" typically means more than the next person has. How big a role does comparison and competition with others play in our need for "more?" If possible, share some personal examples of times when you were quite satisfied with what you had until someone else came along with more.
5. The concept of material possessions not ultimately mattering at all in the face of death seems so clear and so compelling. Why does it remain such a challenge for us to live in light of eternity rather than living for the present?

### **Never Stop Praying:**

- For those attending Alpha beginning Jan 22
- The new comers journeying with us through our What Makes You Happy Series
- The Prayer Summits – may we move from a church that prays to a praying church