

# Talk 1:

## The Presence of God in the Face of Materialism

# Character of Last Days (2 Tim 4:1-3)

Misplaced Love

Lovers of self

Lovers of money

Lovers of pleasure

**= Not Lovers of God**

Triad of last days?

**Narcissism, materialism  
& hedonism**

# **The Futility of Greed as a Lifestyle.**

**Jesus' people say "no"  
to greed as a lifegoal.**

# Lessons from our Eyes

**“What are we allowing our eyes to look upon each day?”**

# Lesson from Slavery

**Our problem is NOT  
half-hearted commitment  
to God but full-hearted  
commitment to self.**

## Lesson 2 from Slavery

**We are fast becoming the  
generation that knows the  
price of everything  
but the value of nothing!**

Lesson from Pagans

**Worshippers must say no to  
“worry as a lifestyle”**

Why?

**Worry is the “currency” of a  
Godless and atheistic world**

# The Cure

**Faith is the currency of the new world or kingdom that Jesus has come to usher in!**

**Don't waste today on  
tomorrow**

**Learn to repent from the  
“vice of instant gratification”**

**Learn to live with the  
“virtue of delayed gratification”**

# **3. Love Stuff, Hate People**

## **The Challenge of Ageism**

- Singapore is one of fastest aging nations (in 2007, 8.5% were above 65. In 2030, 20%)
- Singaporeans think people are old at increasing younger age. In India and China – people are not old until 67. In Australia, until 74. Same in UK, Canada, France, Swiss, Germany, USA.
- **We are fastest aging and becoming more agist!**

**Prof Sarah Harper**

**Head of Oxford Institute of Aging:**

**“Traditionally, in Singapore and other Asian countries, would live and work together. Now, we increasingly segregate the generations.”**

Dr Robyn, ED of Institute for the  
Future of Aging Services:

**“The closer a society gets to being old,  
the more frightened it becomes, the  
more backlash against aging – so there is  
increasing interest in creating a youth-  
oriented culture.”**

**Problem: Fear of the old!**

**Solution: Favor the young!**

- Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup> older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity. 1 Timothy 5:1-2

## 2 gospel Lessons:

1. Treat one another as God's family, not as a company, institution or denomination.
2. Favor, not fear, older men and women

- <sup>8</sup> If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

**1 Timothy 5:8**

- **Love & care for dependant loved ones, especially parents, is a mark of a true believer.**

## Redirected Love:

**Factor in or factor out?**

**Resource or Outsource?**

**Asset or Liability?**