I. FIRST, HOW WE HANDLE MONEY AFFECTS OUR FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LORD.

   A. This is what Jesus says—Luke 16:11.

   B. What does this mean for us today?

      1. It means, if we handle our money properly according to the principles of scripture, our fellowship with Christ will grow stronger.

      2. Why? Because Jesus is the Lord of everything in our lives.

II. SECOND, POSSESSIONS COMPETE WITH THE LORD.

   A. Jesus confirms this truth—Matthew 6:24.

   B. This doesn’t mean that there is anything wrong with having money.

   C. What Jesus says in Matthew 6:24 refers to people who try to cherish both God and possessions.

III. THIRD, MUCH OF LIFE REVOLVES AROUND MONEY.

   A. During the week, how much time do you spend earning money?

   B. Scripture teaches us there are two distinct parts to the handling of our money: the part God plays and the part we play.

   C. God’s part involves teaching us to be content. How?

      1. Contentment is mentioned seven times in the Bible and six of those times it refers to money—Phil. 4:11-13.

      2. Contentment must be learned and at least two steps are involved.

         a. First, we must recognize God’s ownership of everything, including our money—Ps. 24:1.

         b. The second step of learning to be content is to understand God’s promise to provide for our needs—Matthew 6:33 & Phil. 4:19.