

Invested In What Matters

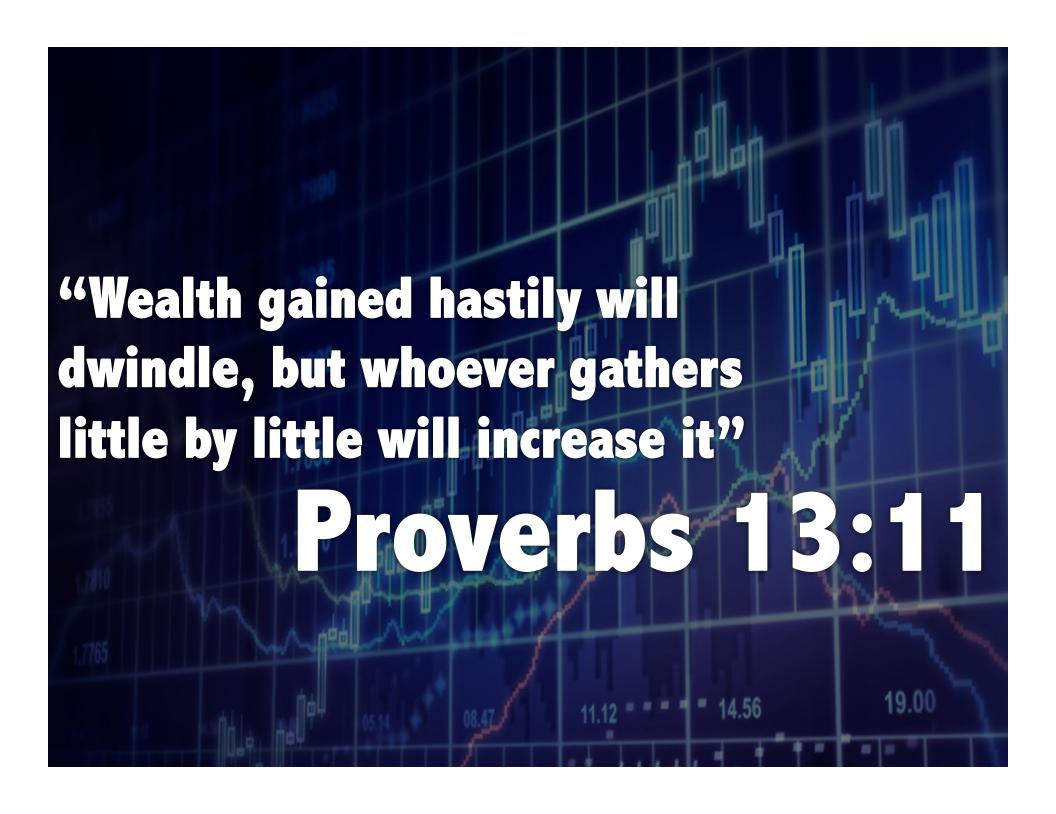
- There is no such thing as doing Christianity, family, or morality half-heartedly. You must be fully invested to see the spiritual and emotional rewards of life's most precious pursuits:
 - Marriage (Ephesians 5:22ff)
 - Parenting (Hebrews 12:9-10)
 - Relationships (Colossians 3:18-25)
 - The human body as a symbol of our interdependence (1 Corinthians 12:14-26)



Income might be disposable, but people are not

- People are not extraneous or unnecessary to your life. Everybody you know contributes something, even your enemies (Matthew 5:44-45).
- Unbelievers are sometimes more shrewd about their friendships than we are, as Jesus points out in a parable (Luke 16:1-13).
- You might find yourself quite sorry you dismissed people so easily (Proverbs 3:27-28).

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Diversification

- Ecclesiastes 11:1ff
- Look outside your comfort zone for advice, wisdom, and friendship. See older or younger church members as family (1 Timothy 5:1-2).
- Some of the most valuable experiences in life are totally unanticipated – people you didn't expect would influence you, bad examples that shocked you, etc.

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