This is the Amount of Money You Need to be Happy, According to Research  
By Jamie Ducharme

Money really can buy happiness as it turns out – but you might not need as much as you think...

A survey of more than 1.7 million people from 164 countries, to put a price on optimal emotional well-being: between $60,000 and $75,000 a year...But while that may be the sweet spot for feeling positive emotions on a day-to-day basis, the researchers found that a higher figure - $95,000 – is ideal for “life evaluation”.

All said, if your income is below – or above – the researchers’ ideal threshold, don’t despair. Research suggests that while money can buy happiness, that quality of your spending is just as important as the quantity.

Study: Money Isn’t Everything – But Status Is!  
By Alice Park

The Beatles sang that money can’t buy you love, but what about happiness? Research consistently shows that the more money people have, the more likely they are to report being satisfied with their lives...money buys you things that make life easier and more satisfying: the easier your life, the happier you tend to be...

People tend to value their own wealth more – and are happier – when it compares favorably to everyone else’s. The so-called reference-income hypothesis holds that it’s not simply how much money you make that contributes to satisfaction, but how much more money you make than, say, the national average. The higher your salary than the norm, the happier you tend to be....

In terms of life satisfaction, rank is a better predictor than absolute wealth...Money may not buy you love but it may be enough to purchase status – and a little bit of happiness.

Rich People – We Have a Problem

Average US annual income is $58,270  
Rank: 8/78

Minnesota  
Median Household income of $63,488  
Ranks 12/50

Chisago County  
Median Household income of $64,726  
Ranks 16/87

MN Cities:  
Forest Lake  
$35,334 per capita  
Ranks 32/868

Chisago City  
$22,321  
Ranks 144/868

Lindstrom  
21,195  
Ranks 171/868

Article: America is the 1%, by Hugh Gye

“You need to earn 34,000 annual income to be in the global elite...and half of the world’s richest people live in the US...the Global median (yearly) salary is $1,225 according to top economists.”
Misplaced Faith

Clothing/Appearance
Financial resources/paycheck/retirement
Hoarding wealth/savings/possessions
Luxury – high class living/home/car
Self-indulgence – “you want it, you get it”/“latest-greatest”/food, technology/phones
Condemning and murdering innocent men – taking the poor to court or manipulating them for gain/not paying deserving wage – knowing the good you ought to do and not doing it (4:17)

Rich People – We Have The Solution

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despite the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

Matthew 6:19-21, 24

As we manage God’s resources, some advice:

From Jesus:

Sell some stuff and give to the poor Luke 12:33-34

Be trustworthy with little and you will be entrusted with more Luke 16:10-12

Be generous Matthew 20:15

Give from your heart Luke 21:1-4

Give in secret Matthew 6:1-4

Deny yourself, follow Me Matthew 16:24-26

Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, give clothes to those in need, care for the sick, visit the prisoner Matthew 25:31-46
From Paul

Be a cheerful giver  2 Cor. 9:6-7
Provide for your family  1 Tim. 5:8
Give regularly  1 Cor. 16:2
Be content in all circumstances  Phil. 4:11-13; 1 Tim. 6:8

As you leave here, remember:

God owns it all
We are in a growth process
The amount is not important
Faith requires action