

Point of Contrast #14

POSSESSIONS

How you handle your money and resources

Girl-Gone-Wild
Circumspect

“I have spread my couch with coverings,
colored linens from Egyptian linen;
I have perfumed my bed with myrrh,
aloes, and cinnamon.”
Proverbs 7:16-17

Girl-Gone-Wise
Indulgent

“She opens her hand to the poor and
reaches out her hands to the needy. . .
She makes bed coverings for herself.”
Proverbs 31:20–22

In the “Girls Gone Wise” book, read the fourteenth point of contrast between the Wild Thing and the Wise Thing (pages 191-198), and then answer the following questions:

1. What would you do if you won the lottery? I’m serious. Think about it. If you had an unlimited amount of money, what would you do? What would you spend the money on? What would you buy? How would your lifestyle change? How would you spend your time?

2. Lady Babylon was a greedy consumer. She loved indulging in the “power of luxurious living.” How attracted are you to the “power of luxurious living?” Put a mark on the scale to indicate how attractive the thought is to you.



3. Answer the following questions by putting filling in the circle of the answer that applies:

- often rarely
- often rarely
- often rarely
- often rarely
- often rarely
- often rarely

- Are you a shopaholic?
- Do you pursue pleasure through the purchase of material goods?
- Do you buy things you don’t really need or have the place to put?
- Do you like to show off your possessions?
- Do you try to impress or “wow” others with what you own?
- Do you compare what you have to what others have?

- often rarely Are you embarrassed if your possessions aren't as flashy or spectacular?
- often rarely Are you envious of how much money others have, or what they own?
- often rarely Are designer labels important to you?
- often rarely Do you routinely spend more money than you have?
- often rarely Do you have credit card debt?
- often rarely Does your tax return indicate that you have given generously?
- often rarely Do you demonstrate concern for the poor and the needy?
- often rarely Do you pray about the purchases you make?
- often rarely Do you think about how you can use your resources to further God's Kingdom?
- often rarely Do you remind yourself about the eternal worth of earthly possessions?

4. What type of behavior would you expect to see in someone who "treasures the riches of the Kingdom more than the riches of the world"?

5. The chapter outlines 5 lessons about what your perspective toward your money and other resources ought to be. In the first empty column, write a sentence to personalize each lesson (the first one is done for you). In the second empty column, write down how you can put that lesson into practise.

	The Lesson is...	I can put this into practise by...
Ownership	I am just a "manager." I am accountable to God for how I spend and use His resources.	
Investment		
Responsibility		
Valuation		
Devotion		

6. How can you invest yourself and your resources for eternity?