



Road to Financial Freedom - Message Title
Proverbs 3:9; Luke 16:1-15; Proverbs 17:16; Matthew 25:14-30; Matthew 6:33;
Deuteronomy 8:18; Psalm 24:1; 1 Chronicles 29:14; 1 Corinthians 4:2; Leviticus 27:30;
Acts 20:35; 2 Corinthians 9:13;

January 8, 2023

DAILY DEVOTION

Find a rhythm in God's word this week! Follow this 5 day plan on your own or with your group!

<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/30299-generosity>

INSPIRATION

"Giving is the antidote for selfishness. It's the hallmark character quality of those who win with money." - Dave Ramsey

ICE BREAKER

1. People usually fall into one of two camps when discussing money/finances. Either you geek out about spreadsheets, markets, saving, budgets, giving, retirement plans, etc. Or you break out into cold sweats whenever you hear certain trigger words like: "budgets, finances, money management, etc." Which camp are you? Do you love or hate talking about money?
2. Do you agree or disagree with the Dave Ramsey quote above?

DEEP DIVE

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

"Honor the Lord. You might not be ready to do that. You might be more interested in honoring yourself with your wealth. You have to decide. Will I honor God or myself with the money that I have been trusted with?"



Jesus tells a story that comes right after another story he told, he told the story of the prodigal son, and the little line in there is what, he squandered his money on wild living.

OK , his dad had given him more money than he could have imagined – he was rich – and in a short period of time he blew through all the money he had. When times got tough, he had nothing to see him through, he was not in trouble for leaving home, he was in trouble for blowing through the money.”

Read Proverbs 3:9 and Luke 16:1-15 and then answer the following questions:

3. Have you ever thought, “if only I had more money, then I would be more generous? If God would give me more, then I would give Him more?” What does Luke 16:1-5 teach us about the amount of money that we are given versus what we do with that money?
4. What is one practical step that you can take right now to honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything that you produce? (ex. start a budget, cut back on spending, start giving, etc)
5. If you were like the prodigal son and were suddenly given an enormous amount of money, how would you handle that new wealth? What would you do first?

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

“Here are the rules of the road.

1. **Everything belongs to the Lord** – Psalm 24:1 “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.”
2. **Everything we have comes from God** – 1 Chronicles 29:14 “But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!”
3. **We are managers not owners** – 1 Corinthians 4:2 “Now, a person who is put in charge as a manager must be faithful.”
4. **A tithe of everything we earn belongs to the Lord** – Leviticus 27:30 “One-tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord and must be set apart to him as holy.”

Read Acts 20:35 and 2 Corinthians 9:13 and then answer the following questions:

6. What do you honestly think about the 4 rules of the road that Mark shared (listed above)? Which rule do you think would be the most difficult to follow, in your opinion?
7. How have you witnessed the principal in Acts 20:35 play out in your life, that is more blessed to give than to receive?



8. Mark said, "This is not a financial thing, this is a faith thing. We are going to exercise the faith muscle. When you start to give, your faith will grow." Have you ever thought about exercising your faith muscle or trusting God with your finances?

Additional Study

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

- Proverbs 17:16
- Matthew 25:14-30
- Matthew 6:33
- Deuteronomy 8:18

NEXT STEPS

9. What is the first thing you need to do this week with your finances? Set an attainable and simple goal.
10. What can you do to encourage someone in your group to take their first step?

PRAYER

1. After sharing prayer requests, pray for the person on your right. Pray for that person throughout the week.
2. Pray for trust. Pray that God would entrust you to be a good steward of His wealth and that you would give up control and trust God with your finances.

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- BENSON - Local Mission Partner is ABIDE. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- MILLARD - Local Mission Partner is Heartland Hope. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- FREMONT - Local Mission Partner is LifeHouse. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- OMAHA - Local Mission Partner is Open Door Mission. Contact Lyndsey Deyoe for more information.
- Or get to know your community! Seek out service opportunities in your area.