

MENS LIFE BLOOMINGTON

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Biblical Basis | The Money Connection

Overview: The Bible provides financial guidance. It gives insight to help ensure that you make God-honoring decisions. This is true no matter what stage of life or work situation you find yourself in. There is something to learn about money management from reading scripture. But you must apply what you learn. If not, your money can become a great distraction and disruption in your life. In this session we will explore the Biblical perspective on money for daily living.

Focus Verse: This is what the LORD says: “Don’t let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken! key verse tied into the theme | Jeremiah 9:23-24 NLT

Video: Generosity – The Bible Project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62CiiEkRCso>

Segment Questions: (References are on back)

- What first comes to mind when asked “What does God say about money?”
- Why does there seem to be a disconnect between how important the money conversation is and how rarely we bring God into our financial planning?

Read the Matthew passages on the back.

- As you look at these verses from Matthew, what are some of the financial money principles that come from this passage?
- How have you seen these applied in your life?

Recalling Ron Blue

- When Ron Blue spoke two weeks ago, he gave three things that cause problems in our finances: confusion, the fear factor and not understanding the Biblical perspective on money. Which of these three have caused your biggest money problems?
- What helps you leave money matters in God’s hands and adopt a stewardship mentality?

Action Questions:

- In what ways has your view of money helped you experience an unforgettable adventure with God?
- What are some steps you can take to improve your understanding of God’s view on money and then apply it to your life.

Closing Personal Prayer:

Lord, help us use your Word to evaluate where we are and consider where you are leading regarding money matters. Give me the courage to take needed steps. Help me grow in my trust that you do own it all and I am just a steward of what you have entrusted. Thank you for your promises to life by. Amen.

Introduction

Once upon a time, there was a young man who had grown up in a family that believed money was the root of all evil. He had been taught to be wary of money and to never trust it. But as he grew older, he began to question this perspective. He wanted to know what God's perspective on money was.

He decided to seek out answers from the Bible. He discovered that God does not view money as evil, but rather as a tool for us to use in our lives.

Money is a lot like manure. If you store it up it stinks. But if you spread it around, it does a lot of good. The Bible has a lot to say about money.

God owns everything and is generous with his blessings. Jesus is God's most generous gift and that we are stewards of what God has given us.

Many of the Proverbs given to us from King Solomon give practical advice on money. The Book of Proverbs is like a financial planning guide. And when Jesus walked this earth, He spoke often about money. One of the most direct passages is from Matthew 6:21. Jesus makes the connection between one's heart and one's treasure.

Money reveals our hearts and will not last forever, so we should use it wisely and faithfully. Although money can have both good or bad purposes, it is up to us how we use it. Jesus alluded to this when He talked about the importance of being faithful to what God entrusts to us.

If we want to live and love like Jesus, then we must manage our finances according to God's principles. We must remember that everything belongs to Him. We should strive to be faithful stewards of His resources.

Proverbs 3:9-10 | Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

Matthew 6:19-21, 24-25 | Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money. "That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing.

Proverbs 11:28 | Trust in your money and down you go! But the godly flourish like leaves in spring.

1 Timothy 6:7-10 | Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.