

Stressed over Money?



Money Matters

Of all the requests for prayer I've heard, it feels like the majority are about money. Unemployment, not enough money to pay the bills, a financial crisis—all seem to be the order of the day in this economic slump the World is currently experiencing.

As with every other issue in our lives, the Bible gives us guidance and advice related to our finances. Let us take a look at what God wants us to know about money...

God Will Provide

- Matthew 6: 28-33
 - In God's Word, we find that Jesus is telling us not to worry about the things we need. He tells us that God takes care of flowers and grass; and that we, therefore, should not worry about him taking care of us.
 - We are instructed by Jesus to seek His Kingdom first and all these things will be added unto us.
 - Life Lesson: Focus on your relationship with the Lord and He will make sure your needs are fulfilled.

Use What You Have

- I Kings 17: 7-16
 - The Widow didn't have much, but she had something. She had enough oil and flour to make her and her son their last meal. What she didn't realize is that the little she had would eventually become enough to sustain her family.
 - Give to God first and He will supply you with what you need
 - Just when it feels like you are at the end of your rope, the Lord makes a way out of no way at all

Give to God— Even in Hard Times

- Luke 21: 1-4
 - The poor widow gave out of her poverty, while others gave out of their wealth. She gave all she had to the Lord.
 - Even when your financial situation is difficult, give to God. God appreciates it when we give even out of our poverty.

Blessed for Obedience

- Deuteronomy 28: 1-6
 - We are blessed when we are in good standing with God. We can block our blessings when we are disobedient to God's Word.
- Deuteronomy 30: 1-3
 - God is open to blessing us financially and otherwise when we come back to Him.

Wisdom from God's Word on the subject of Money

- Eccl. 5: 10
- Matt. 6: 24
- I Cor. 16: 2
- I Tim. 6: 10
- Prov. 11: 4
- Prov. 11: 25-26
- Prov. 12: 11

Money Tips

- No matter what your income is, always try to save 10-15% of your take home pay. Ask your bank about a savings account, CD or other types of investment vehicles.
- Live below your means. Too often, our standard of living equals or exceeds the money we make. If we live below our means, we can save more money for the rainy day or financial crisis which could be just around the corner.
- Eliminate debt. Create a plan to gradually get rid of the debt you have. You didn't create the debt overnight, so don't expect to get rid of it overnight. Gradually address your debt and you will see progress and feel much better about your financial situation.