

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the Lord Almighty." **Malachi 3:8-11**

Jesus said, "Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full — pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back." **Luke 6:38**

BONUS STEP: Accept God's P _____.

Psalms 37:5, "Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you."

NEXT STEPS

To Start on the Road to Financial Freedom I Will:

O Memorize Luke 6:38.

O Honestly explore the connection between my spiritual growth and my finances over the next 2 months by:

- ___ Attending each Sunday for the rest of this series as I am able.
- ___ Giving generously to God's work.
- ___ Attending Dave Ramsey's FPU.

Next Week: "How Do I Overcome the Desire for More?"



"God's Plan for Financial Freedom"

Financial Freedom Series, Part 1

Pastor Ted Harvey

February 13, 2011

"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." – Matt. 6:19-21

Jesus never said money or material things were problems. He said they were symptoms of the real problems:
G _____, C _____, E _____, P _____

†The Bible has much to say about material wealth. **Check out Lev. 26.** The principle here is that total obedience to God's commands result in blessing!

† We can't take credit for what we have or have accomplished. Look what happened to King Nebuchadnezzar in **Daniel 4**.

† Two Quick Points Here:

- It is A _____ not aptitude that God honors!
- There is no correlation between W _____ and H _____.

4 Myths on Money

1. P _____ is next to spirituality.
2. Money brings happiness.

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

1 Timothy 6:17

3. To be wealthy is a S _____.
4. Money is the root of all E _____.

“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.” **1 Timothy 6:10**

2 Common Types of Bondage

- Excessive use of C _____.
- An A _____ of money.

“Lord, I ask but two things from You: first, help me to never tell a lie; second, give to me neither riches nor poverty because in my poverty, I might steal, and in my riches I might become content without You.” **Prov. 30:7-9**

Symptoms of Financial Bondage

1. Overdue B _____
2. I _____ Worries
3. A Get-Rich-Quick Attitude: Prosperity E _____
4. No Gainful Employment

“For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “If a man will not work, he shall not eat.” **2 Thessalonians 3:10**

5. D _____
6. G _____
7. Covetousness

8. Family N _____ Unmet
9. Unmet Christian Needs
10. Over-commitment to W _____
11. Money Entanglements
12. Financial Unfairness
13. Lack of Commitment to G _____ Work
14. Financial R _____

“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.” **Prov. 3:9-10**

How Can We Achieve Financial Freedom?

1. Transfer O _____ of every possession to God.
“So be careful to do what the Lord your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. Walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess...” **Deut. 5:32-33**
2. Become Debt-F _____.

7 Steps to Get Out of Debt

1. Make a written plan – B _____:
2. Stop any E _____ that is not absolutely essential for living.
3. T _____ before buying.
4. Discontinue buying on C _____!
5. Avoid L _____. Don't borrow money to invest!
6. Begin to practice S _____.
7. Establish the T _____. See story of Abram in **Gen. 14**.