

# Root of Riches

It starts in the heart.

## Lesson 1



## What's the big deal?

- 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 on faith, but more than 2350 on money and how to handle it
- Why did Jesus say more about it than any other subject but the gospel
  - Simple society
  - No credit cards
  - No checkbook
- So why all the attention even back then?

## 1. Our Fellowship

How we handle our money impacts our fellowship with the LORD.

*Luke 16:11 "If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?"*

*Matthew 25:21 "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things: enter into the joy of the LORD."*

## 2. Possessions compete with God

*Matthew 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."*

- Large or small amount makes no difference

## 3. Life

Much of life revolves around money

- Try to live a day without having anything to do with money
- Contentment
  - Mentioned 7 times in the Bible, 6 times it pertains to money
    - *Philippians 4:11-12 "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."*

## 4. One of our Roots

- We are described often as trees, all which have roots that feed the life of the tree
- How we feel/think towards money is one of our biggest roots (beliefs)
  - *1 Tim 6:10 "For the love of money is a root of all evil."*
- Me Tree Vs. He Tree
  - We are all born into the world as Me Trees

### Three Characteristics of Roots

Unseen

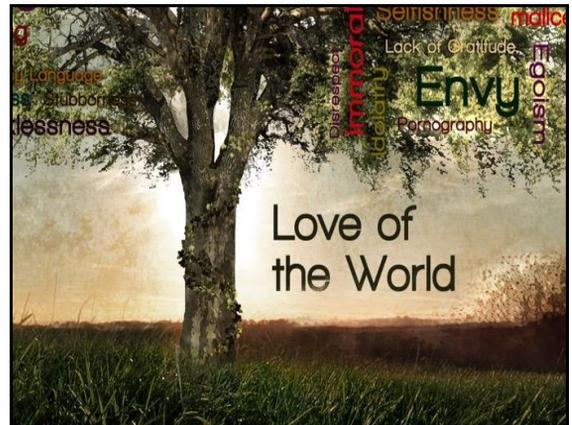
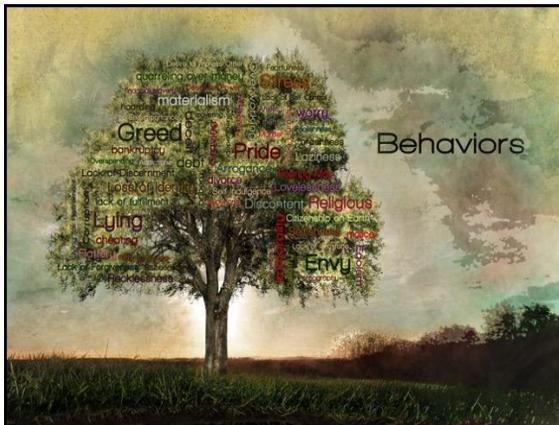
• Deut. 8:17 "And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hat gotten me this wealth."

Pervasive

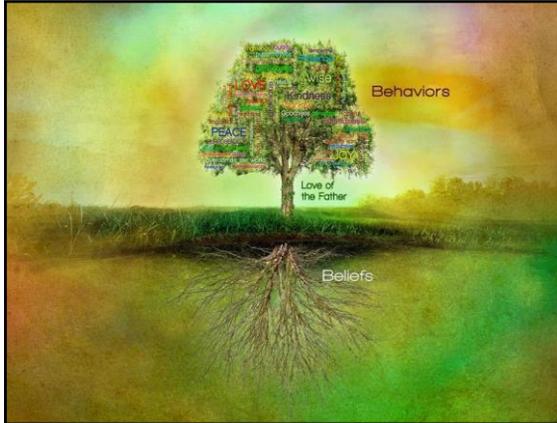
• 1 John 2:16 "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Responsible for fruit

• John 15:5 "I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."







## Key Indicators of the He Tree

- This tree believes in **God's Word**.
- This tree believes it's more blessed to **give** than to receive.
- This tree believes in serving God **only**.
- This tree believes it is **small** compared to God.
- This tree believes in faithfulness with **small things**.
- This tree believes in **eternal rewards**.
- This tree lives in hope of one day hearing, "**Well done**, good and faithful servant."

## The Riches

- A. He Trees are rich, richer than all **Me Trees**, regardless of how much money they have accumulated, because the root of riches is found in **Christ**.
- B. God makes the He Tree rich in **every way** so that it will give God's riches to others, not hoarding them for itself.
- C. He Trees can live without **fear** of **loss**.

## Interlocking Roots

- A. The pursuit of **worldly** riches is a dangerous threat to the church and knowing God's Word is our greatest protection.
- B. When our roots are transformed, we become a species of tree that is part of **God's family** for eternity. We are **interlocked** and **interdependent**, helping each other to grow and weather the storms of life.
- C. He Trees are God's stewards equipped to advance **His** purposes and share **His** goodness to the ends of the Earth.

## Financial Practices of He Trees

- Our financial house will be built upon **sand** or **rock**. Both will get tested but only one will endure the storms.
- The financial practices of the **He Tree** set it apart from the Me Tree and enable it to be used for **God's** purposes.
    - Work hard at **all** times.
    - Work in an area where God has **gifted** you.
    - Eliminate **all** debt.
    - Take care of your **family** with an appropriate lifestyle.
    - Help others **prosper**.
    - Save a portion of **all** your earnings.
    - Guard your **integrity**.
    - Use all resources to advance **God's** kingdom.
    - Make **generosity** the focus of your life.

## If Jesus was tempted...so will you be

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Temptation in the wilderness
  - Luke 4:5-8 "And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me: and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."
  - He overcame only through the power of the Spirit and the Word of God. That is our source of power too.

## Non-negotiables

- I accept that both the cause and the solution to my money future lies within my own heart.
- I must align my beliefs with God's Word to produce behaviors that will make me truly rich
- I must act upon and apply spiritual truth in order to receive true riches

# God's Part

The Lord is owner of all.  
Lesson 2

## Embezzlement...what is it?

- Theft or misappropriation of funds placed in one's trust or belonging to one's employer
- Why are we starting with defining this word?? Any ideas?

### Joshua 6:18-19

*<sup>18</sup>And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. <sup>19</sup>But all the silver and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD."*

### Joshua 7:10-15

*<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said unto Joshua: "Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? <sup>11</sup> Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also and they have put it even among their own stuff. <sup>12</sup> Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you. <sup>13</sup> Up, sanctify the people, and say, "Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel; thou canst not stand before thine enemies until ye take away the accursed thing from among you." <sup>14</sup> In the morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your tribes. And it shall be, that the tribe which the LORD taketh shall come according to families thereof; and the family which the LORD shall take shall come by households; and the household which the LORD shall take shall come man by man. <sup>15</sup> And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath, because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel."*

### Joshua 7:20-21

*<sup>20</sup> And Achan answered Joshua and said, "Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done: <sup>21</sup> When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonian garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it."*

## What was Achan's sin?

- Embezzlement
- God clearly defined what was His...ALL of it
- God clearly told them what they could have for their purposes...NONE of it
- If the Israelites would have had a need God would have provided for it
- The consequences of the sin were not only felt by Achan's family but by the whole Israelite community in their loss at Ai.
- **"God does not own the first 10% of all the money we earn, he owns 100% of everything we have." - John Piper**

## God the master

- God is the Owner
- God is in Control
- God is the Provider

## God is the Owner

- Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it. *Duet 10:14*
- The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. *Psalm 24:1*
- For *"the earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness."*  
*1 Cor. 10:26*

**Day 1 Question: What do these passages teach about the ownership of your possessions?**

## God is in control

- *"Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all."* *1 Chr. 29:12*
- *"For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.<sup>6</sup> Whatever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places."* *Psalm 135:5-6*
- *The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will."* *Proverbs 21:1*

## God is in control, continued

- *"Have you not known? have you not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in: That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity. Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble."* *Isaiah 40:21-24*
- *And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; <sup>27</sup> That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of. Acts 17:26*

**Day 2 Question: What do these passages say about the Lord's control of circumstances and people?**

## Joseph/Job

- Hind sight is 20/20.
- *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."* *Romans 8:28*

### Day 3 Questions:

1. **Why is it important to realize that God controls and uses even difficult circumstances for good in the life of a godly person?**
2. **How does this perspective impact you today?**

## God is the provider

O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. <sup>10</sup> The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing. Psalm 34:9-10

• "Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?"

<sup>32</sup> (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

<sup>33</sup> But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:31-33

• "And my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19

**Day 4 Question: What has the Lord promised concerning meeting your needs?**

God is absolutely predictable in providing and unpredictable in how he chooses to accomplish it. ☺

## God's part notes

### Day 5 Questions:

1. Describe the most important concept in God's Part.
2. How can you work to be consistent in recognizing the Lord's ownership of your possessions?
3. What personal benefits do you anticipate from this consistency?

## Compare and Contrast

- Society says
  - "What I possess I alone own, and I alone control my destiny."
- Scripture says
  - "What I possess, God owns. He is the sovereign, living God who controls all events."

## Achan's fall into sin

"When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it." Joshua 7:21

God's wealth and riches are impossible to ignore. He clearly has them before our eyes. It is a heart attitude and issue whether or not we choose to covet what is His and then to take and then try to hid the fact that we have it.

## Ponder your future (share what you can)

- What 3 goals do you want to accomplish during the next 5-10 years?
- Describe what financial resources will be required to accomplish your goals. What is your plan to acquire the necessary finances?
- As you think of yourself as an older person what do you wish to be remembered for?
- In light of your answers to these questions, what actions do you need to take?



## Our Part

Faithful Stewardship  
Lesson 3

## Solomon (materialism) vs. Job (stewardship)

- Worshiped wives idols, 700 wives and 300 concubines
- Used wealth for pleasure/some of wealth from taxes
- Servants/people rebelled
- Wealth was a huge barrier between him and God
- Sought happiness from his "things" not from God
- "pure and blameless, fears God, shuns evil"
- Used wealth to make more
- Servants were loyal
- Didn't allow wealth to keep him from humility before God (sacrifices for children)
- Job 1:21 *"The LORD gave and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."*

## Matthew 24:45-51

*"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? <sup>46</sup> Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. <sup>47</sup> Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. <sup>48</sup> But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; <sup>49</sup> And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; <sup>50</sup> The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, <sup>51</sup> And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."*

## How would you define/describe a steward?

- "to manage or look after another persons property"
- A manager or supervisor
- Biblical – supreme authority under the master and has full responsibility for all the masters possessions and household affairs
- Submits to master
- Faithful with money
- Manages time
- Is about his Master's business
- Respects others (other employees or family)

## Matthew 25:14-22

*"For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. <sup>15</sup> And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. <sup>16</sup> Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. <sup>17</sup> And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. <sup>18</sup> But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. <sup>20</sup> And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliverdest unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. <sup>21</sup> His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. <sup>22</sup> He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliverdest unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them."*

## Matthew 25:23-30

<sup>23</sup> *"His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. <sup>24</sup> Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: <sup>25</sup> And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. <sup>26</sup> His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: <sup>27</sup> Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. <sup>28</sup> Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. <sup>30</sup> And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."*

## Matthew 25:14-30

- Imagine that you choose three investment managers in order to diversify your portfolio. You give one manager \$5 million, one \$2 million, and another \$1 million. After seven years, you ask them to report on their results. The first reports that the investment of \$5 million is now worth \$10 million, the second has grown from \$2 to \$4 million. However the last one reports that he was afraid of losing the money and making you angry so he kept the money under his mattress. How would you describe the third manager?

## Is this about money??

- NO! It is about faithfulness.
- The master didn't need any more money...he was wealthy already.
- The most important issue was loyalty not wealth. Who could he trust?
- The talents were to be invested for the master's benefit, to further His kingdom.

## So what are the talents?

(and what hinders them)

- Time / Unavailability
- Talents (abilities) / Fear
- Money / Materialism (Resourcefulness vs. Wastefulness)
- Family / Self-centeredness
- Compassion / Indifference
- Diligence / Slothfulness

## Parable of the Shrewd Manager

Day 3 Q1- Why did the master remove the steward from his position?

Digging in...

- Was he fired immediately?
- Do the debtors know he is being warned?
- Is he making himself look good or his master? How?
  - This is a rich man acting like a bank. His manager has given out loans that are not being paid back. Since the manager's main objective is to get on the good side of the debtors he chooses to lower each of their loans. This makes the master look very gracious and actually makes the debtors more likely to pay off the debt. The rich man then commends the steward because he gets most of his money back and the steward just made the master look like a really gracious and merciful master.

## Parable of the Shrewd Manager, continued

- Often times the people of the world are better at making people look good than Christians making God look good.
- A faithful steward will ALWAYS make his master look good. (Reveal His love, mercy and forgiveness to others)

## Requirement of a Steward

- Faithful
  - With all resources
  - Regardless of how much
  - In small things – "Small things are small things but faithfulness with a small thing is a big thing." Hudson Taylor
  - With another's possessions

## Our Part Notes

- Day 5 Q 1-How have you observed the Lord using money to mold your character?
- Day 6 Q2 – Why do you think the Lord in *Psalms 90:12* encourages us to number the days we think we will live on earth?
- Moses' choice...Royal Prince vs. Hebrew slave
  - *By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. <sup>25</sup> Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; <sup>26</sup> Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. Hebrews 11:24-26*



## Job vs. Calling (Can we separate them?)

- Abraham (Chieftain & Faith)
- Joseph (Servant/Employee & Forgiveness)
- Moses ( CEO & Trust)
- Joshua (Warrior and Spiritual Hunger)
- Isaiah (Prophet & Compassion/Availability)
- Daniel (Management & Integrity)
- Paul (Business Owner & Boldness)
- Humphrey Monmouth (Business Owner & Boldness)
- Grandpa (Business Owner & Joy)

## Biblical Perspective of Work

Day 1 Q 1 When did work start? Why is this important?

- *"The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. Genesis 2:15"*

• What was the consequence of sin on work?

- *"Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt eat of it all the days of thy life; <sup>18</sup>Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; <sup>19</sup>In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and dust shalt thou return."*  
Genesis 3:17-19

## Retirement??

- Not a Biblical principal
- What is Biblical?

## Choices now...Future impact

- Choosing a job
    - Gifts/Talents
    - Job Shadowing
    - Mentors
    - Ask, Ask, Ask!
  - College/Vocational School/Job
    - Think and pray before moving forward
    - Debt vs. Starting Salary (Avg. debt \$30,000, 10 year, 4.66% interest)
 

• Teacher (\$30,000)	CPA (\$50,000)
• Nurse (\$43,000)	Electrician (\$31,000)
- What % of your income do you want devoted to debt payments?

## Our Part in Work

- Work hard
- But do not overwork

## 10 Things that take ZERO talent

- Being on time
- Work Ethic
- Effort
- Body Language
- Energy
- Attitude
- Passion
- Being Coachable
- Doing Extra
- Being Prepared

## Debt

**Debt is slavery.**  
**Borrowing from your tomorrows to  
 pay for your todays.**

### Lesson 5

## The Widow Elisha Saved...

• The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, *"Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the Lord: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen."* 2 Kings 4:1

- We don't know why...catastrophic events, "down on luck", bad financial choices.
- This is a godly man. Even those who love the lord can find themselves in bad/hard decisions
- We do know that God did not encourage debt! It was actually tied to disobedience to God.
- Whatever his reasons, he ended up leaving his family in a very difficult situation.

## The Widow Elisha Saved.....

2 Kings 4:2-7

*<sup>2</sup> And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil. <sup>3</sup> Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. <sup>4</sup> And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full. <sup>5</sup> So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out. <sup>6</sup> And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. <sup>7</sup> Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.*

## The Widow Elisha Saved.....

- 1<sup>st</sup> – She cried out to God
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – She did her part. Although she said she had "nothing" in reality she had some oil and a community of people willing to help
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – She had to work. God did not fill her jars with coins.
- 4<sup>th</sup> – god provided to pay off the debt and an uncertain future.

## Debt (All about it)

- What is it?
  - Money or property which is obligated to pay to another
    - Credit Cards, car loans, student loans, bank loans, family loans, home mortgage, home equity loans, any past due bills (medical bills)
    - About anything can be on credit now. (Furniture, appliances)
- How has it changed?
  - Slavery, Debtors prison to bankruptcy (no real burden to the borrower)
- How does debt work?
  - Secured vs. unsecured (collateral, high interest rate)
  - Debt amount, repayment period, interest rate
- The unseen consequences of debt
  - Stress! This is one area that can cause a lot of tension for families.

### The True Cost of Debt

- Credit card debt
  - \$5,560 debt, 18% interest
  - Costs \$1,000 annually
- No CC debt
  - Invest \$1,000 annually
  - 40 years, 8% return
- CC Company
  - \$1,000 annually
  - 40 years, 18% return

	Year 5	Year 10	Year 20	Year 30	Year 40
Amount of interest paid	(5,000)	(10,000)	(20,000)	(30,000)	(40,000)
Invested 1000 at 8%	5,868	14,488	45,766	113,293	259,078
Lender earns on your 1000 at 18%	7,154	23,521	146,628	790,948	4,163,213

Year	Starting Balance	Interest	Principal Paid	Total Interest	New Balance
M 1	100,000	312.50	150.62	312.50	99,849.38
M 2	99,849.38	312.03	151.09	624.53	99,698.29
M 3	99,698.29	311.56	151.56	936.09	99,546.73
M 4	99,546.73	311.09	152.03	1,247.18	99,394.70
M 5	99,394.70	310.61	152.51	1,557.79	99,242.19
M 6	99,242.19	310.14	152.98	1,867.93	99,089.21
M 7	99,089.21	309.66	153.46	2,177.50	98,935.75
M 8	98,935.75	309.18	153.94	2,486.77	98,781.81
M 9	98,781.81	308.70	154.42	2,795.47	98,627.39
M 10	98,627.39	308.22	154.90	3,103.69	98,472.49
M 11	98,472.49	307.73	155.39	3,411.42	98,317.10
Y 1	98,317.10	307.25	155.87	3,718.67	98,161.23
Y 2	96,414.14	301.30	161.82	7,367.20	96,252.32
Y 10	78,330.24	244.79	218.33	33,686.31	78,111.91
Y 20	46,600.87	145.63	317.49	57,432.18	46,283.38
Y 30	462.04	1.45	462.04	66,723.58	0.00

### Eliminating debt

- Repayment period (15 vs. 30 year )
- Increase monthly payments (add \$50)
- Extra Payments
- Pay Monthly/Bimonthly
- Pay high interest loans
- Start with small loans
- Plan ahead (car loan)

### Credit Cards

- Credit Card VS. Debit Card
- Unsecured Loan!!
- Means very high interest rates
- Minimum Payment vs. Balance
- Always pay off the Balance not the minimum payment
- Late Fee Vs. Interest charge
- Use caution in the number of cards you have
- Keep your CC Limits low

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

<b>New Balance</b>	<b>\$87.75</b>
Minimum Payment Due	\$35.00
Payment Due Date	December 19, 2014

**Late Payment Warning:** If we do not receive your minimum payment by the date listed above, you may have to pay a late fee of up to \$35.00.

### Credit score

An estimate of the ability of a person or organization to fulfill their financial commitments, based on previous dealings.

How is it calculated?

- Payment History** (accounts for 35% of most scores)
- Credit Utilization** (accounts for 30% of most scores) ratio of Balance to limit
- Length of Credit History** (accounts for 15% of most scores)
- Mix of Accounts** (accounts for 10% of most scores)
- New Credit Inquiries** (accounts for 10% of most scores)

### Example

Student loan - \$30,000, 10 year, 4.66% interest  
 Car - \$7,000, 3 year, 8.5% interest  
 Home - \$100,000, 30 year, 3.75% interest  
 CC- \$5,000, 18% interest - \$1,000 annually

Annual Income	30,000	40,000	50,000	60,000
Take Home	26,000	34,000	42,400	48,500
Student Loan	(3,748)	(3,748)	(3,748)	(3,748)
Car Loan	(2,652)	(2,652)	(2,652)	(2,652)
Home Loan	(5,557)	(5,557)	(5,557)	(5,557)
Credit Card	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
<b>Left Over</b>	<b>13,043</b>	<b>21,043</b>	<b>29,443</b>	<b>35,543</b>

Left Over – Still have Food, Clothing, Insurance, Car care, Home repairs, medical needs, savings

## Borrowing

Scripture is silent on when we can owe money. It is possible to own money for a home mortgage or for your business or vocation. This is permissible (in crowns opinion) if the following criteria are met

- The item purchased is an asset with the potential to appreciate or produce income
- The value of items equals or exceeds the amount owed against it
- The debt should not be so high that the repayment puts undo strain on the budget

## Honesty/Counsel

### Lessons 6 & 7

## Honesty

- Truth (Lies) under social pressure
  - Daniel & Lions Den/Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego
- Truth (Lies) to preserve job
  - Pharisees and Tomb guards
- Truth (Lies) to preserve appearance
  - Ananias & Sapphira
    - Proverbs 13:7 "There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches."
    - Matt 23:25 "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess."
    - Luke 11:42 "But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe the mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

- Day 1 – What are two factors that motivate or influence us to act dishonestly?
- Day 3 – What are some of the benefits of honesty?

*"LORD, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill?" Psalm 15:1*

*"Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight." Prov. 12:22*

*"The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after them." Prov. 20:7*

## Counsel

- Friends
  - Daniel and Friends
- Family
  - Abraham & Lot
- Religious Leadership
  - Ahab and Jehoshaphat
- Myself vs. God
  - Rev. 3:15-18 "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: <sup>18</sup> I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

- Day 1 What hinders you from seeking counsel?
- Day 2 Does the Lord actively counsel his children?

*"I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons."*

*Psalm 16:7*

- I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.
- How do you seek the Lord's counsel?
- Who should be among your counselors?

## Budgeting

- Variable vs. Fixed Expenses
  - Housing, Car, Food, Clothing, Insurance, Eating out, Savings, Tithes
- Steps
  - Find Fixed/Variable Expenses
  - Monthly Income
  - Compare and look at budget busters
    - Housing (30-40%)      Savings (5%)
    - Food (12%)            Medical (4%)
    - Car (12%)              Miscellaneous (5%)
    - Insurance (5%)        Investments (5%)
    - Debts (5%)             Clothing (5%)
    - Entertainment/Recreation (6%)

## Budgeting

- Envelope method
- Bank Account Method
  - Auto pay big amounts as soon as money comes in
- Apps (Wally, Level Money, Unsplurge, Good Budget, Mint)
- Quickbooks
- 50/30/20 Method (Doesn't include charity)
- 60% Method (40% goes straight to savings/giving)
- Reverse Budgeting (Savings approach)

## Investing

### Consistency Lesson 9

## First things first...

- *"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36*
- *"And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. <sup>30</sup>For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. <sup>31</sup>But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you."*  
Luke 12:29-31

## The Rich Foolish Man

*"The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: <sup>17</sup>And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? <sup>18</sup>And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. <sup>20</sup>But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? <sup>21</sup>So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."*  
Luke 12:16-21

- Why was the rich man called a fool?
- Should we be investing if we are not giving?

## Joseph

- Genesis 41: 33-36 *"Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. <sup>34</sup>Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years. <sup>35</sup>And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. <sup>36</sup>And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine."*
- Was Joseph saving or investing?
- 20%, 7 years

## Investing/Saving

- Saving is making provision for tomorrow, while debt is presumption upon tomorrow.
  - Saving and debt are opposites!
- Investing- to put money to use, by purchase or expenditure, in something offering potential profitable returns, such as interest, income or appreciation in value
- Saving – sums of money set aside and kept for a future purpose
- Why??
  - Don't let saving replace your dependency on God to supply all your need.

## Types of Saving/Investing

- Decrease Debt
  - Debt costs you, so by decreasing debt you are increasing your cash inflow
- Choose NO new debt (Delayed Gratification) ☺
- Savings – Liquid \$
  - Short-term funds (Small purchases)
  - Larger savings (Car, Down payment)
  - Emergency funds (3 months living expenses)
- Investing –
  - Retirement
    - IRAs, 401k, etc (If you have a company match, get it!)
  - Business Ownership

## Vocab...☺

- Compounding
  - Amount
    - This is more dependent on your standard of living than on your income.
  - Rate of return
  - Time
- Risk
  - May take time and experience to know your own risk tolerance
- Diversify

## Example

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## Types of Investments

- Checking Accounts
  - Sometimes they cost
- Savings Accounts
- CD's
- Stocks
- Bonds
- 401k, 403b
- IRA
- Business Ownership
- Real Estate
- Coins (Gold/Silver)
- Mutual Funds

## Advice For Saving

- Work hard and diligently
- Pay God first, yourself second
- Live below your means
- Be consistent, steady plodding
- Minimize debt
  - Pay debt down quickly
- Understand that there is a time for everything
  - Good times/bad times
- Diversify
- Obey God's commands

## Wrapping it up

*"For the love of money is the root of all evil." 1 Timothy 6:10*

*"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." Joshua 1:8*

*"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. <sup>12</sup> I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:11-13*

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16*