

Pay It Forward
May 18-19, 2013

- I. A Lexus With a Message
 - A. The One Who Dies With the Most Toys Wins
 - B. Wikipedia Poll of American's Top Ten Goals
 - C. Jesus' Perspective: The Rich Fool (Luke 12:15-21)
- II. God's Perspective on Money and Possessions
 - A. 2000 Bible Verses on the Poor, Oppression, Injustice

"Why did Jesus say more about how we are to view and handle money and possessions than about any other topic—including both Heaven and Hell, and prayer and faith? Because God wants us to recognize the powerful relationship between our true spiritual condition and our attitude and actions concerning money and possessions." Managing God's Money, Randy Alcorn
 - B. Relationship With Money Can Displace Our Life With God
 - C. Three Things That Can Neutralize Us: The Parable of the Sower¹⁹"but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the Word, making it unfruitful." Mark 4:19
 - D. The Deceitfulness of Riches

"Satan's plan is to use our own affluence to distract us from sacrificial living and cause us to miss God's unique calling on our lives." Beth Moore
- III. Managing God's Money: The Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-30)
 - A. Six principles regarding our relationship with money
 1. Everything belongs to God—even us (Ps. 24:1; I Cor. 6:19-20)

"Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth" Deuteronomy 8:18, (NIV)
 2. We are not owners, but managers
 3. He has distributed His resources to us according to our ability.
 4. God has specific purposes for each one to accomplish (Eph.2:10)
 5. We will give account to God as to how we have invested for Him
"So then each of us will give an account of himself to God."

Romans 14:12

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil." II Cor. 5:10

6. We will receive a reward based on our investment results
"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'" Matthew 25:23
- IV. Paying It Forward
 - A. You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead (Ps.49:16-17)
 - B. Why should we give?
 1. In obedience to the Great Commission (Matt: 28:19-20)
 2. To keep our heart where it belongs
"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" Luke 12:34
 3. To demonstrate our reliance on God and avoid self-sufficiency
"Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For 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." I Timothy 6:9-10
 4. To "put us in the way of the Holy Spirit"
 5. To free up the generous rewards that God desires to give us
"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
 - C. How to give
 1. Set aside the first part—not the leftovers (I Cor. 16:1-2)
 2. Give cheerfully and generously (II Cor. 9:6-10)
 - D. Where to give (Isa. 58:10)
"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will repay him for his deed." Proverbs 19:17 (ESV)
 - E. How much to give
 - F. Rewards for giving
 - V. The Challenge
 - A. 100 Crashing Jetliners
 - B. Rich Man/Poor Man: Some Telling Comparisons
 - C. What Difference Could a Generous Church Make?
 - D. "Think of Me" by Lisa Chan

Additional Resources

“Think of Me” You Tube video by Lisa Chan: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDPW7nQuV-8>

Recommended Reading

Managing God’s Money: A Biblical Guide, Randy Alcorn

The Treasure Principle: Discovering the Secret of Joyful Giving: Randy Alcorn

The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives, Dallas Willard

The Great Omission: Reclaiming Jesus’ Essential Teachings on Discipleship, Dallas Willard

The Hole in Our Gospel, Richard Stearns

Unfinished: Believing is Only the Beginning, Richard Stearns

Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger: Moving from Affluence to Generosity, Ron Sider

Radical: Taking Back Your Faith From the American Dream, David Platt

Follow Me: A Call to Die. A Call to Live, David Platt, Francis Chan

Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God, Francis Chan

Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God, Blackaby and King

Quotes

“There is nothing wrong with men possessing riches. The wrong comes when riches possess men.”
Billy Graham

“The principle is timeless: If Christ is not Lord over our money and possessions, he is not our Lord.”
Managing God’s Money, Randy Alcorn

“If we really believe God is the owner of all that has been entrusted to us, shouldn’t we be regularly asking him, “What do you want me to do with your money and your possessions?” And shouldn’t we be open to the possibility that he may want us to share large portions of his assets with those whose needs are greater than ours?”
Managing God’s Money, Randy Alcorn

“Once we understood we were giving away God’s money to do God’s work, we discovered a peace and joy we never had back when we thought it was our money!” There can be no understanding of stewardship until there is an acute awareness of ownership. The steward cannot do his job well without clearly grasping who owns—and who does not own—what is entrusted to his care.”
Managing God’s Money, Randy Alcorn

“According to Romans 14:12, “Each of us will give a personal account to God.” One day we will all have to answer these and other questions: What did I do with

all that wealth? What has my handling of money and possessions accomplished for eternity?”
Managing God’s Money, Randy Alcorn

“It’s not how much money we make that grabs hold of our hearts. It’s how much we keep.”
Managing God’s Money, Randy Alcorn

Additional Scripture References

“Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed, rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”
Psalm 82:3-4

“If there is a poor man among your brothers in any of the towns of the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward your poor brother. Rather be openhanded and freely lend him whatever he needs. Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.”
Deut. 15:7-8

“He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord and He will reward him for what he has done.”
Prov. 19:17

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”
James 1:27

“Then the King will say to those on his right, Come you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”
Matt. 25:34-36

“For every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it”
Psalm

50:10-12

“The LORD makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and lifts up” 1 Sam. 2:7

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. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. I Timothy 6:17-19