

ALIGN

YOUR FINANCES WITH THE HEART OF GOD

THE THEOLOGY OF GENEROSITY

name

phone / email

JESUS, who personally came to reveal the heart of God, talked more about money than other theological topics. That in itself is quite a revelation!

And in the talking and teaching that Jesus did, He revealed some very frank and direct thoughts that God has about what He chooses to entrust to us:

MATTHEW 6:24

No one can serve two masters... you cannot serve both God and money!

MATTHEW 6:19-20

Do not store up for yourselves on earth... ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven.

MATTHEW 6:21

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

But alongside those exhortations/warnings, He also says:

MATTHEW 7:11

...how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

And the Apostle Paul adds:

1 TIMOTHY 6:17

...God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

How do we live in a way that aligns with and reflects God's heart in this tension of owning things but not letting them own us? What guidance does the Bible give? And how does that work out in very practical ways?

Thanks for joining us in this discussion over the next weeks. It is our prayer that these lessons will help each of us find a way to better "align our finances with the heart of God."

Donald Reed,
The Training Center

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RESOURCES

Align resources, including teaching slides, audio, curriculum, articles, etc, can be found at:

fellowshipnwa.org/align

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Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

ROMANS 12:2 NIV

SESSION 1

PURSuing THE
JOY OF
GENEROSITY

SESSION 1

PURSuing THE JOY OF GENEROSITY

INTRODUCTION: SEMINAR EXPECTATIONS

Values for this course:

What we want _____ you, *not* what we want _____ you!

Steps in Transformation

ROMANS 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

If your _____ are in place, 99% of your _____ are already made for you!

PURSuing THE JOY OF GENEROSITY

A. God owns it all.

"... _____ in heaven and earth is yours."

"you are exalted as _____ over all..." 1 CHRONICLES 29:11

- The land. LEVITICUS 25:23
- The money. HAGGAI 2:8; 1 CHRONICLES 29:12
- The animals. PSALM 50:9-11
- Therefore, every _____ decision is a _____ one.
- It will also influence how we _____ for our/God's possessions.
- This demands a _____ in our thinking, when we begin to see our _____ as God sees them.

Steps to changing our thinking:

- _____ on 1 CHRONICLES 29:11-12.
- Be aware of the Lord's _____ of all you have.
- Be careful in the use of _____, _____, _____ .
in referring to material wealth you possess.
- Begin to consider _____ for His things in
your possession.

B. God is a generous God. MATTHEW 7:11

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| • Garden of Eden | • Job |
| • Abraham | • Widow of Zarephath |
| • Promised Land | • Jesus, Indescribable |
| • Solomon | • Eternal Life |

God's Generosity to Us!

- The Father gave the Son (the most valuable gift a parent could give).
- The Son gave his life (the most valuable gift a person could give).
- God gives us eternal life (the most valuable gift we could receive).

C. God loves to _____ with His children.

1 TIMOTHY 6:17; 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12B; ACTS 17:24-25

D. God invites us into a journey of _____ to others around us.

1 TIMOTHY 6:18; 1 CHRONICLES 29:14

- Generous with our good deeds
- Generous with our finances

Benefits of Generosity—the *Why*

- Lay up treasure for the _____ .

1 TIMOTHY 6:19

- Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be _____
to your _____ . PHILIPPIANS 4:17

“Right now counts forever!!” — Rob West, Faith & Finance Podcast

- Take hold of life that is _____ . JOHN 10:10
- “life and life abundantly...” JOHN 10:10
- ...what is good and pleasing and perfect (complete) ROMANS 12:2
- *“Break the hold our treasures can have on us.” —G.K. Chesterton*
- *“The acts of giving, and especially giving generously, is the best way to counteract our tendency to become a slave of money and what it will buy.”
—Doudera*

Coming Full Circle:

- Tapping into _____ . MATTHEW 6:19-21
- Making _____ investments that last forever.
- _____ the generosity of God. 2 CORINTHIANS 9:10-11

The WHY of Generous Living

- Faithful _____ (stewardship) of our resources brings _____ rewards (unfaithful management brings penalties).
MATTHEW 25:23; LUKE 16:1-3; 10-12, REVELATION 22:15
- Our _____ living reflects the great _____
of our God! MATTHEW 7:11