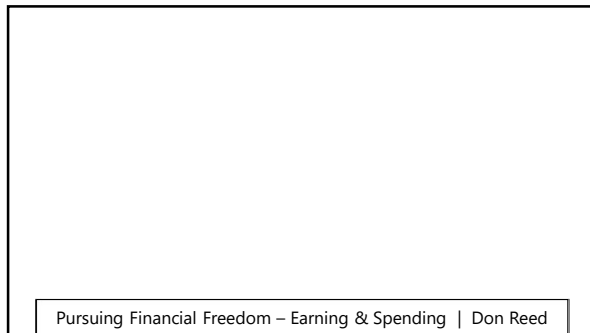
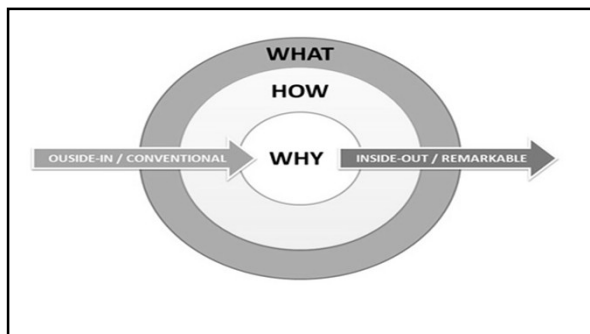




1



2

The WHY of Generous Living

- Faithful management (stewardship) of our resources brings eternal rewards
- Our generous living reflects the great generosity of our God!!!

3

Values

- What we want for you, not what we want from you!
- Live like no one else today so that you can live and **give** like no one else tomorrow! --Dave Ramsey

4

Values

- 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.

5

Values

- 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~~ complete will.

6

Values

- 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 **complete** will.

7

Introduction

God's cycle of Financial Stewardship

Earning

Spending

8

Deuteronomy 29:5

Yet the Lord says, "During the forty years that I led you through the wilderness, your clothes did not wear out, nor did the sandals on your feet."

9

**God looks very seriously upon how
we handle our wealth**

Luke 16:11

So, if you have not been trustworthy
in handling worldly wealth, who will
trust you with **true riches**?

10

TRUE RICHES

From Pride to Gratitude
From Anxiety to Trust
From Covetousness to Contentment
From Indifference to Love

11

TRUE RICHES

From Pride to Gratitude

Deuteronomy 8

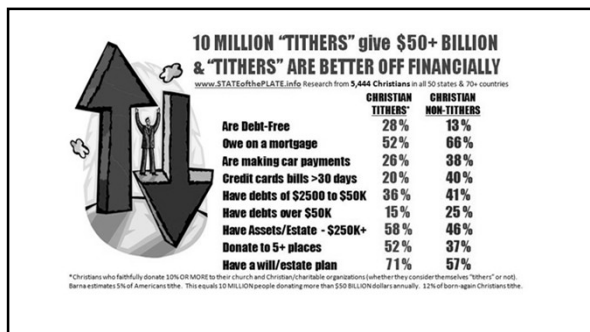
— ¹⁴then your heart will become proud and you will
forget the LORD your God...¹⁷You may say to
yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have
produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸But remember
the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability
to produce wealth

12

TRUE RICHES

From Pride to Gratitude Deuteronomy 8:14ff
From Anxiety to Trust Philippians 4:6-7
From Covetousness to Contentment
1 Timothy 6:6, Philippians 4:12-13
From Indifference to Love Matthew 22:36ff

13



14

Americans who do not give away 10 percent of their income run the significant risk of ending up less happy than they might have otherwise been. In fact, as a group they are less happy. So, whatever Americans lose by giving away 10 percent of their income is offset by the greater likelihood of being happier in life.... Rather than leaving generous people on the short end of an unequal bargain, practices of generosity are actually likely instead to provide generous givers with essential goods in life—happiness, health, and purpose—which money and time simply cannot buy. That is an empirical fact well worth knowing. (Christian Smith and Hilary Davidson, "The Paradox of Generosity," Oxford University Press, 2014.)

15

**Jesus knew the potential risks of
dealing with our material wealth**

Matthew 6:24

No one can serve two masters. Either
you will hate the one and love the
other, or you will be devoted to the one
and despise the other. You **cannot**
serve both God and money.

16

**Over 2350 verses in the Bible have to
do with finances and our possessions**

Jesus talked more about material wealth
than prayer, heaven, faith, hope, etc.!!

17

**God looks for faithfulness in
managing His possessions**

Matthew 25:21; Luke 16:1-2

18

Matt. 25:21

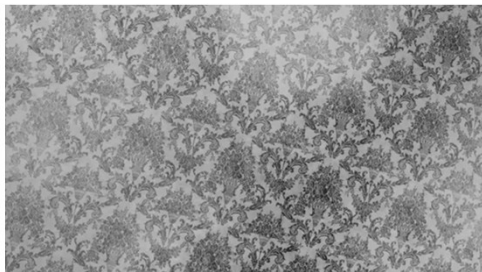
His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

19

Luke 16:1-2

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'"

20



21

Earning money

Work

- **92% of people who go to work are unhappy, don't like their jobs, can't wait to quit or retire**

22

Earning money: Work

God's view of work

- **It is good - was part of a perfect creation** - *actually God's work!!*

Genesis 2:15

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden **to work it and take care of it.**

23

Earning money: Work

Work is **commanded** both in OT & NT

Exodus 20:9-10

Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God.

2 Thessalonians 3:10

For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."

24

Changing Demands of the Workforce

- | • Past | • Future |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| • My Paycheck | • My Purpose |
| • My Satisfaction | • My Development |
| • My Boss | • My Coach |
| • My Annual Review | • My Ongoing Conversations |
| • My Weaknesses | • My Strengths |
| • My Job | • My Life |

Gallup: It's the Manager

25

Earning money: Work

Work develops character

Colossians 3:22

Slaves (employees), obey your earthly masters (employers) in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

26

Earning money: Work

Work is God's means of support

Ephesians 4:28

Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands...

27

Earning money: Work

Work can/should bring satisfaction/fulfillment

Ephesians 6:7-8

Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.

28

Earning money: Work

Work is God's way to provide for your family and for others in need

Ephesians 4:28

Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

29

Earning money: Work

What you earn from working is what God has given you to spend.

30

Earning money

Contentment is not based on what we earn or have. It is a learned behavior.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income...

31

Earning money

Philippians 4:12-13

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

32

Earning money

I Timothy 6:6

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

33

Earning money

**Discontentment is the primary
marketing strategy in our culture.**

(I Samuel 16:7; Romans 12:2)

34

Earning money

I Samuel 16:7

But the LORD said to Samuel... The LORD does
not look at the things people look at. People
look at the outward appearance, but the LORD
looks at the heart.

35

Why are we still starving for nourishment after our sixth Bible
study in a row? How can people supposedly filled with the
Spirit be so enamored with the luxuries of this world to the
detriment of the other 99% who suffer so? How can we be the
richest people on earth and still be so unhappy? Does my
craving for **more** neutralize the **enough** that Jesus says He is?
If I'm patterned after my Savior, why does my life look exactly
like everyone else's, with the exception of some stellar church
attendance? The tension is finally pinpointed here:

As believers in the western church, how can we have so much
and do so little with it?

Jen Hatmaker - 7

36

Earning money

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 *complete* will.

37

Earning money

Extenuating factors

Minimal opportunity for work

Health, accident, infirmity/disability

38

Earning money

Children and work:

A problem in our affluent society which
develops an entitlement mentality

39

Spending Your Money

How we handle our money is an index of our true character.

The more money we have, the more we reveal our character.

40

Spending Your Money

Luke 16:11

So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?

41

We need God's wisdom in this area

Isaiah 55:8-9

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

42

The most significant difference in God's view
of material wealth and our view is that the
Living Lord is the central focus.

Who is the owner?

What is His desire?

43

There are only three categories to
our spending:

(thru) Giving

(into) Savings

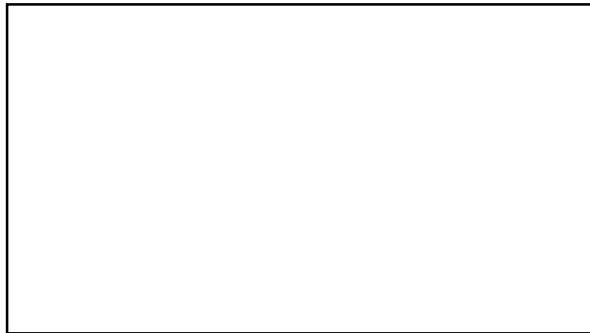
(for) Fun

44

*...to have a balanced financial plan and a balanced
life, you must spend, save, and give a part of every
dollar.*

Asking About Asking, Stroman

45



46
