

Living Word Fellowship Church
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A Biblical Analysis of How God Defines Stewardship

POSSIBLE REASONS WHY WE ARE UNABLE TO GIVE
Lesson #4

God knows our needs. We need money to live. God knows that we need money. God wants us to have sufficient money--Matt. 7:11 says, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father, who is in heaven, give good things to them that ask Him." (see Luke 11:4-13) Money is one of God's gifts to us. Money, however, is not the ultimate blessing the Lord has for us.

HAVING MONEY IS NOT CONDEMNED ANY PLACE IN THE BIBLE....HOW IT IS HANDLED (MISUSED) IS WHAT IS CONDEMNED.

A. If you are in financial difficulty, one or several of the following reasons will be the cause:

1. Overspending and poor planning (Luke 15:14).
2. Trying to get rich (Proverbs 23:3-5; 28:20, 22).
3. Stinginess (Prov. 23:7).
4. A person that does not give at all or gives very little-- (2 Cor. 9:6)
5. Over-extended credit cards, especially those with high interest rates (Proverbs 21:5).
6. Medical bills
7. Gambling (Isaiah 65:11).
8. Laziness - do not want to work (Prov. 6:6-11; 10:4; 14:23; 20:13).
9. Indulgence (Liquor, drugs, cigarettes, etc.) (Prov. 23:21)

B. The way to regard money (attitude)

1. A blessing when it comes from God (Psalm 112:1-3; Proverbs 8:17-21; James 1:17). When it is gained for wicked schemes, it is trouble (Proverbs 13:16,22; 15:6).
2. Do not love it (1 Tim. 6:10)
3. Do not be proud because you have money (1Tim. 6:17)
4. Be content with the money you have (1 Tim. 6:6,7,9; Heb. 13:5) "...seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).

Note: A person who loves money is useless to God (i.e., Balaam, Delilah, Ananias and Sapphires, Judas), and it becomes a tool that Satan can use to stray them away from God (Matthew 6:24). We see this when Satan rules the world (Revelation 13:11-16 (especially 15-16); 18:9-20).

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