

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 13

Read Genesis 13:1-7

OBJECTIVE: Explain and describe your financial status to determine your current wealth to make necessary changes in the immediate future

In this lesson:

- 1. You must set aside a time within a day or two to review your finances
- 2. Be honest with yourself about unnecessary spending
- 3. Write down your gifts and talents and ask yourself are you using them

INTRODUCTION

What does it mean to be wealthy?

Wealth is having the resources, love and respect of family, friends and colleagues that will last for generations.

Most people think being wealthy and being rich is the same thing. The simple difference between a rich person and a wealthy person is that a wealthy person has a sustainable wealth. Whereas, someone who is merely rich will only be so for a short period of time until the money or resources run out. For example, professional athletes are rich, the owners are wealthy.

For example, if your monthly expenses are \$5,000 and you have \$20,000 in savings, your wealth is approximately four months or 120 days. But if you're expenses are \$5,000 and you have investments that provide \$5,000 a month, you are infinitely wealthy.

Wealth is measured in time, not dollars.

APPLICATION

QUESTION: Can you stand to be blessed? To have Financial Blessings:

- 1. Increase Your Income
- 2. Reduce Your Debt
- 3. Save Wisely
- 4. Live Generously

LESSON IDEAS

1. Believe God for Wealth

Abraham Was Wealthy

Read Genesis 12:2 - One of the promises of God to Abraham was, "I will bless you"

One of the blessings God promised Abraham was land, 12:4 If you have land you can build wealth.

QUESTION: Does your family at this moment possess a piece of land?

The possibilities of land:

- a. Build a house
- b. Lease the land
- c. Build a building
- d. Farm the land
- e. Build rental property
- f. Sell the lumber

Read Genesis 13:1-2 Abraham went down to Egypt, 12:10, and seemingly came back with more than he had.

APPLICATION: When was the last time you reviewed your finances?

APPLICATION: Have you made any decisions recently about your finances?

Financial Suggestions

Get Out of Debt

The financial debt of God's people is keeping them enslaved and from being financially free. Proverbs 22:7 says, "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower becomes the lender's slave." The world's system demands consumer debt. God's people too often fall into the trap of consumer debt. However, debt is not to be the lifestyle for God's people.

God does not want us to be in financial bondage. Many Christians often fall into the trap of Satan and transfer God's blessings into comfort and peace for themselves.

Financial Bondage can be caused by several things. Check any that apply to you:

- ____ poor planning
- ____ poor financial habits
- ____ lack of discipline
- _____ greed or impatience
- ____ desire for status
- _____ fear for the future
- ____ lack of sound counsel
- _____ ignorance of God's Word
- ____ other

Attitude is the key!!!

2. Use Your Talent

If you want to build wealth and have more money, use your gifts. Your gifts are streams of income.

Particularly, if you follow your purpose and use your gifts, profits will follow.

You should have multiple streams of income:

- a. There were four rivers that flowed into the Garden of Eden
- b. David was a warrior, but he was musically inclined, he was a businessman, an administrator.

Parable of the Talents

Read Matthew 25:14-28

A. Vs. 13, Be on alert, we do not know the day nor the hour

- Be smart, plan, do not wait until the last minute to get your affairs in order
- B. Kingdom of heaven = like a man about to go on a journey and entrusted his own slaves
 - a. Vs. 15, first slave was given five talents
 - b. Second slave was given two talents
 - c. One slave was given one talent
 - d. Each according to his own ability
 - 1. Vs. 16 one had five went and traded and gained five more = 10 talents
 - 2. Vs. 17 one had two gained two more = 4
 - 3. Vs. 18 one who had one talent dug a hole in ground
- C. Vs. 19, Master came to settle accounts
 - a. Vs. 20 With five talents, had five more talents. well done
 - b. Vs. 22 With two talents, gained two more talents, well done
 - c. Vs. 24 With one I knew you were a hard man, afraid and went and hid your talent
 - d. Vs. 26 Master called him wicked you did know I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. Master said you should have put my money in the bank with interest
 - e. Vs. 28 Took the talent from him and gave it to the one who had ten talents. Lesson: To the one who has more, more will be given

3. Be A Tither and a Giver?

Read Luke 6:38 and 2 Corinthians 9:7

The Scripture says God loves a cheerful giver. Jesus Himself gave His life for us to have the free gift of salvation. Therefore, He in turns love those who are givers. In this devotion, I want to encourage you to think about your systematic giving to the Lord. Do you practice consistent giving? Do you give at least 10 % of your income to the Lord? God expects that you make a commitment and start, for example, at 5% and work your way up to 10%. Then, once He blesses you financially, then move up to 11 % or 12% or more.

Are you a giver towards missions? Missions is where the church meets needs and shares Christ. In Acts 2: 44, the people sold their property and possessions to help people in need. In your giving, you should customarily give to missions.

CONCLUSION

- 1. Make an appointment with a financial consultant and review your current financial status
- 2. Your gifts and talents are your side hustle
- 3. God loves a cheerful giver