

DAVID'S MEN

SEEKING THE HEART OF GOD



Stewardship and Generosity

This month we will focus on Stewardship and Generosity. The Bible has more to say about money and possessions than any other topic:

- There are 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, and more than 2,000 verses on money and possessions.
- Jesus talked about money and possessions in 16 out of 38 parables.

Why does God place a high priority on this topic? Possibly because it is one of the enemy's most powerful weapons used against us. Money is often one of the last areas surrendered in a Christian's life.

Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." – Matthew 6:24

There is no way to cover everything that the Bible says about money in one month. The goal is for you to take an honest look at your heart as it relates to this topic and ask yourself some tough questions. This month's topic is a great one to include your wife. As we have already discussed, you and your wife are one, and money is an area in which you both need to agree. A disagreement about money is one of the top two causes of divorce. Do not take this topic lightly.

Current Month Assignments

- Read *How to Be Rich* (Stanley) and prepare a book summary to share with the group.
- Memorize this month's verses. Review your verses from previous months to ensure they become deeply rooted.
- Discuss the following with your wife:
 - What is your biggest obstacle to financial peace?
 - How are we currently doing with stewardship of the resources God has entrusted to us?
 - Read Randy Alcorn's *31 Radical, Liberating Questions to Ask God About Your Giving* (see link in the *Resources* section). Which 5 questions are the most convicting? What is God leading you (and your wife) to do?
 - Review and discuss the *Financial Checklist* (in *Resources* section) with your wife.
- Start working on your *DM Year in Review Summary* (it will be due at our last DM meeting next month). Spend time reflecting on this DM year. There is not a required format for this assignment, but it should include your thoughts on the following items:
 - Which month's topic/focus has had the greatest impact on your walk with Christ this year? Why?
 - In what area/spiritual discipline do you believe God is calling you to greater growth and development? What action steps will you take in this area as you move forward?
 - What has been the most valuable/meaningful part of David's Men for you? Why?
 - Which memory scripture from David's Men has meant the most to you? Why?
 - How is God leading you with respect to next steps in your faith journey with Him?
- Man-date: This would be a great opportunity to practice saying your verses.

Resources:

- *31 Radical, Liberating Questions to Ask God About Your Giving* by Randy Alcorn: <http://www.epm.org/resources/2009/Dec/18/31-radical-liberating-questions-ask-god-about-your/>
- **Financial Checklist:** What action steps will you take to strengthen your position in these areas?
 - Will
 - Insurance: Life, health, disability, auto, homeowner's/renter's
 - Monthly Budget
 - Freedom from debt
 - Funding: College savings (kids), retirement savings, wedding savings
 - Teach your children—pass it on!
- Great article about generosity by J.D. Greear: <https://jdgrear.com/blog/the-generosity-matrix/>
- Websites:

- www.joesangl.com
- www.thesimpledollar.com
- www.daveramsey.com
- www.crown.org
- www.mint.com (budget tool app)
- Books
 - *Total Money Makeover* by Dave Ramsey
 - *How to Manage Your Money* by Larry Burkett
 - *Money, Possessions, and Eternity* by Randy Alcorn
- Scripture (The following aren't part of this month's scripture memory, but these verses do contain scriptural financial principles.)
 - Matthew 6:24 *"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."*
 - Proverbs 22:7 *"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."*
 - Proverbs 21:20 *"In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."*
 - Matthew 6:21 *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*
 - 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 everything through Him who gives me strength."*

Memory Verses

Proverbs 3:9-10

Honor the LORD with your wealth,
with the first fruits of all your crops;
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Matthew 28:19-20

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

+ 1: Matthew 6:21

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