

DAVID'S MEN

SEEKING THE HEART OF GOD



Stewardship & Generosity

This month we focus on Stewardship and Generosity. Money is often one of the last areas surrendered in a Christian's life, making it one of Satan's most powerful weapons against us. Many men find it more difficult to discuss this area of their lives than sexual integrity. The goal is for you to ask yourself some tough questions and take an honest look at your heart. Do not take this topic lightly...lean in and ask God to help you rely on Him.

The Bible has more to say about money and possessions than any other topic:

- Jesus talked about money and possessions in *16 of 38* parables.
- There are 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, and *more than 2,000* verses on money and possessions. Some examples:
 - *No one can serve two masters, for 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 God and money. **Matthew 6:24***
 - *The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender. **Proverbs 22:7***
 - *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **Matthew 6:21***
 - *I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. **Philippians 4:12-13***

NOTE to married DMs: Money is one of the top two causes of divorce. If you're married, it's essential you and your wife are aligned with respect to money, possessions, stewardship, and generosity...so use this month's assignment to help this happen.

Current Month Assignments

- Read [*The Treasure Principle: Unlocking the Secret of Joyful Giving*](#) by Randy Alcorn and prepare a book summary to share with your group. It's a short book but it requires a great deal of reflection, so give yourself plenty of time to get through it.
- Memorize this month's verses. Review your verses from previous months to ensure they become deeply rooted.
- Draft responses to the questions below and be prepared to discuss them at this month's meeting. *Married DMs: Discuss each question with your wife and draft your responses as a couple.*
 - What is my biggest obstacle to financial peace? What steps will I take to deal with this obstacle?
 - How well am I currently stewarding the resources God has entrusted to me? What evidence supports my assessment? What do I need to do to better steward these resources?
 - Review Randy Alcorn's *31 Radical, Liberating Questions to Ask God About Your Giving* (pp. 97-120 in *The Treasure Principle* or at the link in the *Resources* section). Identify the five questions that are most convicting for you. Pray specifically about these questions and write down what you believe God is leading you to do.
- 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 (His *EveryDollar* app has a free version that's very good.)
 - 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

Memory Verses

Be Generous

Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all you produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Stand Firm

1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Hebrews 12:3 - Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.