

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR FINANCES

**Take 8 Weeks to Invest in a Healthy
Relationship With Your Finances &
Get Healthy Relationships in Return**



Good News For Your Finances

Take 8 weeks to invest in a healthy relationship with your finances and get healthy relationships in return

Good News For Your Finances

Whatever your financial situation, there is Good News for you and your family today. In this study, men will learn where their true value comes from, how to have a healthy relationship with God and money, how to make your money work for you, and how to multiply your money for eternal purposes. One of the greatest gifts you can give to yourself, your wife, children, and co-workers is a healthy and honorable approach to money.

New To IMPACT Players: A Video Companion- We are very excited to introduce a video companion that will go with this new IMPACT cohort series. You will be able to find all of the videos and cohort materials on our website- <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

Session 1: Good News: Your Worth Is Not Your Wealth

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Matthew 6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.”*** Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

Summary: Our net worth is not determined by our wealth. Our value comes from God, not from gold. The first step to financial freedom is learning to understand our identity, purpose, and significance apart from assets or income.

Session 2: Good News: You Have A Gracious Father and Generous Master

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: 1 Timothy 6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.”*** 1 Timothy 6:9 (NIV)

Summary: God our Father is a good giver. He is not stingy, or holding back, but offers His riches graciously. Money is a cruel master, but money was never meant to own us. Jesus is a generous master, who asks us for everything, and gives us more than we could ever imagine in return.

Session 3: Good News: A Healthy Relationship With Money Produces Healthy Relationships

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Luke 16

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“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.”*** Luke 16:13 (NIV)

Summary: Money issues and communication are the top two reasons for divorce in America today. Until couples understand their personal relationship with money, they will struggle in their relationship with one another. What does your money say to you? About you? What do you say to your money? Talk about money together and take some practical steps to improve your relationship with money and communication with one another.

Session 4: Good News: Ordering Your Finances Brings Confidence And Clarity

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: 2 Corinthians 9



Scripture Memory Verse: ***“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this,” says the LORD of Hosts. “See if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out for you blessing without measure.”*** Malachi 3:10

Summary: Chaos is the natural outcome of a lack of order. The Bible, along with sound wisdom principles provide an ordered approach to finances that promotes peace, prosperity, and wealth. How to order your finances: 1) Tithes 2) Taxes 3) Savings 4) Investment 5) Budget 6) Charitable Giving 7) Personal Enjoyment. The principle of loaves and fishes begins with entrusting your resources into Jesus’ hands.

Session 5: Good News: Demystifying Debt And Building Credit

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Proverbs 22

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.”*** Proverbs 22:7

Summary: Is debt all bad? Is there wise debt and foolish debt? We will seek to understand how debt can work against us and explore whether debt can work for us. Similarly, understanding and leveraging the concept of credit will help us be better managers of our money.

Session 6: Good News: Best Practices and Biblical Principles

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: James 4:1-5:6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“You do not even know what will happen tomorrow! What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”*** James 4:14 (BSB)

Summary: Making and multiplying money is not something we do separate from our faith. God invites us to partner with Him to engage in best practices that align with Biblical principles in financial management. We will explore some of the best ways to increase and improve your financial health.

Session 7: Good News: A Legacy Of Eternal Worth

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Deuteronomy 8

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”*** Ephesians 2:10

Summary: Parents have a responsibility to not only provide financially for their children but pass on a legacy of eternal worth. This is much more than a large inheritance, but a wisdom and ethic around money that will guide future generations to both spiritual and financial flourishing.

Session 8: Good News: You Can Be Content With God Your Provider

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Philippians 4

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.”*** 1 Timothy 6:6-7

Summary: Over the course of your life and career, you will likely experience a wide spectrum of income levels, expenses, jobs, and even the loss of a job. In every season, believers can learn to be content in knowing that God is their provider. Every season is an opportunity to learn and grow in contentment, and to help family and those around you discover a faith that is impervious to income.



Pre-Season Training:

The Playbook: Read this intro to our study and get prepared for this season.

Pre-Season Training

“Mo’ Money, Mo’ Problems.” The Notorious B.I.G. may have been onto something. Money comes with a price tag and it doesn’t grow on trees. Charles Spurgeon once said, “Money in the hands of a good man is a blessing, and in the hands of a bad man, it is a curse.” What makes this insightful assessment difficult to unpack is this reality... at any given moment, you can be “a good man,” or, “a bad man.” In other words, one day, money can be a blessing, another day, it can be a curse, depending upon where you are at emotionally, relationally, and spiritually. It is not that money is the root of all evil... it is “the love of money” that gets us into trouble. Ultimately, having or not having money is not the primary issue at hand. In the course of your career, you will likely have a spectrum of financial incomes and responsibilities which will require much and provide much as well. The focus of this study is to help you learn to develop a healthy relationship with your finances. The foundational premise of this cohort series is that a healthy relationship with money is a key contributor to healthy relationships with the people you care about most.

Whatever your financial situation, there is Good News for you and your family today. In this study, men will learn where their true value comes from, how to have a healthy relationship with God and money, how to make money work for you, and how to multiply money for eternal purposes. One of the greatest gifts you can give to yourself, your wife, children, and co-workers is a healthy and honorable approach to money. God has a lot to say on the subject of money. The Bible has over 2,350 verses which deal with money, possessions, and wealth: wisdom, warnings, practical insights, inspirational stories, and cautionary tales. Many greatest heroes of the Bible were extremely wealthy, while others were financially destitute. God doesn’t need your money to be pleased with you, and you don’t need God’s money to be blessed by God. Your life and your family can be bountiful and blessed, with or without money. Together, we will learn how to develop a healthy relationship with money, which flows from a healthy relationship with God.

The Playbook: “A penny for your thoughts?” “Here are my 2 cents.” A lot of financial advice is not worth much. The Bible has a lot to say about money, but the Bible is far more than a “How To Manage Your Money” manual. The Scriptures invite us into a grand storyline of God’s creation, man’s fall, Jesus’ redemptive work, and the restoration of God’s Kingdom. This is why Jesus told His disciples not to worry about money and “all these things” that seem important to us in the present moment of our micro-stories. Instead, Jesus says, **“Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”** Matthew 6:33. God cares about our micro-story, and our micro-needs, but He doesn’t want us to miss out on the Meta-Narrative and our deepest, most eternal needs. This is why King David once wrote these bold statements about the value of God’s Word over money in the longest chapter of the Bible, Psalm 119-

“Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain.” (v. 36)

“Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.” (v. 37)

“The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.” (v. 72)

“I love your commandments above gold, above fine gold.” (v. 127)

The most valuable wisdom you will receive from this study will be that which is mined from the Word of God. The Scriptures provide us with truth we can count on, trust, and follow. The Bible is the inspired, authoritative, and inerrant word of God. The Bible is God’s gift to mankind, given to us so we might rightly know Him, know ourselves, understand our world, learn to live the life He always desired for us to live, and instruct others to know and follow Him also. Above all else though, the Bible has been given to us so that we might know Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and be reborn and reformed as new creations made in His image. Every page of



Scripture is pointing us to and illuminating the glory, character, and story of Jesus (see Luke 24:25-49). Jesus is the source of all truth, and the closer you come to Him, the more you will be set free from the lies you have come to believe about yourself, your world, and the people around you (see John 14:6 and John 8:32,36). The purpose of this cohort, **Good News For Your Finances** is to provide a supportive, instructive, and biblically sound environment for you and the other men in your circle to discover and discuss how the Good News of Jesus can transform your relationship to money, so that God can help you to thrive in the relationships that matter most. This study is organized into 8 sessions that will give you eternal wisdom and practical insights for making the most of your money. There will be opportunities to laugh, ask questions, confess personal struggles, request prayer and encouragement, and seek deeper help. The more willing you are to embrace these moments with sincerity, honesty, and humility, the more valuable and productive your learning experience will be. Additionally, there will be unique opportunities for application, challenges for growth, and steps to improvement that will require you to engage with your wife and children in ways that may be unfamiliar and uncomfortable for you (and/or potentially for them too). As you bravely, prayerfully, and thoughtfully lean into these moments, you will experience relational and spiritual breakthroughs that go beyond anything you could have ever imagined. Hebrews 6:12 warns us not to become like those who are **“spiritually dull and indifferent.”** Instead, we are to **“follow the example of those who are going to inherit God’s promises because of their faith and endurance.”** May we be men who inherit God’s promises because of our faith and endurance!

A new and exciting feature of this study is the companion video which will accompany each study. Every week, before you arrive to your cohort, you will take time to watch a professionally filmed and edited video interview with some fellow IMPACT Players who will offer unique, personal, and Biblical counsel on the theme of the session. Watching each video in advance of the study will better prepare you for the session, as well as offer tremendous wisdom that you will be able to apply immediately.

In preparation for your first study, please carve out a window of time to engage in your first ABC Bible reading. On the next page, you will find a blank ABC Bible Study guide which will walk you through the steps. In this season, we will look at 8 Scripture passages that will help us grow a healthy relationship with money. Take time to read the assigned Scripture passage in before each session of our Coaching Cohort.

After reading the chapter, please take a few minutes to write down any questions you might want to Ask about the chapter. Then, write down your Best verse, the verse that stood out to you the most. Finally, write down, the Challenge that this verse leaves you with for the week.

Secondly, take time to memorize the brief scripture verse each week. The great King David says in the Psalms, **“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”** (Psalm 119:11) Every scripture memorized is a deposit in the bank, a log in the fire, a bullet in the gun. It’s important and helpful for every man to know truth and have it readily available to him.

Third, remember that what you put into this coaching cohort will determine what you will get out of it. Apathy and procrastination are not the marks of a dynamic leader, and they should not define your involvement in this cohort. As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. For the next 8 weeks, let’s raise the bar, increase the intensity, and watch the results flow in. You can’t cheat the grind, so let’s set our face like flint and get after it together! Fight the good fight, but don’t fight alone!

Before our first study, please complete the following:

Session 1: Good News: Your Worth Is Not Your Wealth

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Matthew 6

Scripture Memory Verse: **“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need.”** Matthew 6:33 (NLT)



IMPACT MEN

ABC Bible Study:

A) ASK: What questions do you have about this chapter? What sparked your curiosity or left you confused?

B) BEST Verse: Which verse in this passage really caught your attention or made you think in a deeper way?

C) CHALLENGE or CONVERSATION: (What is GOD saying to you in this passage?)

How is God challenging me to grow in response to this Bible Verse?

IMPACT MEN

ABC Bible Study:

A) ASK: What questions do you have about this chapter? What sparked your curiosity or left you confused?

B) BEST Verse: Which verse in this passage really caught your attention or made you think in a deeper way?

C) CHALLENGE or CONVERSATION: (What is GOD saying to you in this passage?)

How is God challenging me to grow in response to this Bible Verse?



Session 1: Good News: Your Worth Is Not Your Wealth

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Matthew 6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.”*** Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

Opening: Why did the Vending Machine break up with the ATM?

It wasn't willing to make any change. We live in a world that revolves around money and material things, so changing our thinking about money is not easy, but it begins by changing the way we think about ourselves. If we do not see ourselves as having intrinsic value and worth apart from our financial or career success, we will have a very difficult time learning to think properly about money.

Funny Money

- "Money can't buy happiness, but it's a lot easier to cry in a Mercedes than on a bicycle."
- "I'm so poor, I can't even afford to pay attention."
- "Money talks, but all mine ever says is 'goodbye'."
- "I have enough money to last me the rest of my life, unless I buy something."

Q. Describe a time when you felt a need to “prove your worth” to yourself or others. What did your efforts to show your value reflect about how you determined your self-worth at that time?

Insight: Every man has experienced the thrill of purchasing a piece of clothing, technology, or an automobile that made him feel better about himself. We have all relished the “oohs and ahhs” that come with a shiny new toy, a hard-earned promotion, an exquisite vacation, or a sterling accolade. This is a natural human instinct, which none of us should be ashamed of, but it comes from a place where pride and shame intersect. If the “oohs and ahhs” determine our self-worth, then the feelings of having less than someone else will leave us feeling worthless. As President Theodore Roosevelt rightly stated, “Comparison is the thief of joy.”

Q. Do you agree with the insight that “Comparison is the thief of joy”? How have you personally experienced this truism? How do you see it influencing your marriage, family, or community?

In the book, Happy Money, author Ken Honda describes 7 Money Personality Types.

Q. Which of these best describe you? Your spouse? Your parents?

Q. How can these money personality types influence your relationships? Your self-worth?

The 7 Money Personality Types

THE COMPULSIVE SAVER

- Saves money endlessly
- Views money as a source of security
- Frugal and financially responsible
- Bargain shopping expert
- Fear of irrational spending

THE COMPULSIVE SPENDER

- Often makes unnecessary purchases
- Spends when in emotional distress, or for immediate gratification
- Experiences buyer's remorse after big splurges

THE COMPULSIVE MONEYMAKER

- Believes life is better when you earn more
- Top priority is growing wealth, making more money
- Craves recognition for their financial success

THE INDIFFERENT-TO-MONEY

- Tends to be financially well-off
- Rarely thinks about money
- Feels money should not influence important decisions in life

THE SAVER-SPLURGER

- Shares combination of traits between Savers and Spenders
- Is smart with money for a certain amount of time, but may then give into spending impulses out of nowhere

THE GAMBLER

- Shares combination of traits between Spenders and Money-makers
- Takes big risks with money
- Happy with financial wins, but deeply depressed over losses

THE WORRIER

- Constantly worried about losing money
- Lacks confidence in ability to achieve financial freedom
- Always in preparation mode

© make it

Read: Genesis 1:26-31

Q. Before Adam, the first man had clothes, a home, a job, or even a wife, he was considered by God to be uniquely special in all of

creation. What is it about humans that makes them so valuable to God?

Insight: The Bible teaches that every human being is created in the image of God, and that this gives us an inherent dignity and value. This means that we have a special connection to God and a special purpose in the world. It also means that every human being, regardless of their gender, race, or any other characteristic, has



inherent worth and value. Since we are made in God's image, we have the capacity for creativity, morality, and spirituality. We are called to use these gifts to serve God and others, and to work towards healing and restoring the world. Not only do we find our own value in God, but we must see all humans through this same lens- We must love, respect, and value one another. James 3:9 says, "With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness." This reminds us that when we mistreat or disrespect others, we are not only hurting them, but we are also dishonoring God who created them.

Q. How do the concepts of divine dignity and sacred value shape the way you see yourself and others in light of economics?

In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus compares and contrasts insights in life and nature to help us learn to think clearly about what we value and what God values. Read the following insights from this passage and comment on which ones resonate with you most right now.

- *Your life is about so much more than what you wear, what you eat or drink, or where you live.*
- *God cares for the birds, but He cares far more for you. You are of great value to God.*
- *The riches and finest clothing of King Solomon cannot compare to the simple beauty which comes from God.*
- *Anxiety and worry about "things" reveal a lack of faith in God's basic goodness, love, and care.*
- *God knows your "needs," but your greatest priorities are God's Kingdom and His righteousness.*
- *Worrying about the future will get you nowhere.*

Insight: Your worth is not your wealth. You do not have to work or stress to prove yourself to God. You are so valuable to God that He gave His only Son to pay the price for the debt your sin had accrued. Jesus made the ultimate trade for you- He gave up His crown for your cross, so that you could trade your cross for His crown. The Bible describes this trade in this way,

"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)

Conclusion: The Gospel (Good News) tells us that we have infinite value because we are created and redeemed by the God of the universe. We can do nothing to work or earn our way to acceptance or value before God, we can only receive the free gift that has been offered through Jesus Christ. Standing on this foundational truth is the only way to have a healthy relationship with money. As you begin to see yourself, your loved ones, and every human being in this light, it will transform your values and tilt the scales towards the treasures of heaven instead of the trinkets of earth.

Session 2: Good News: You Have A Gracious Father and Generous Master

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: 1 Timothy 6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction."*** 1 Timothy 6:9 (NIV)



Session 2: Good News: You Have A Gracious Father and Generous Master

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: 1 Timothy 6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.”*** 1 Timothy 6:9 (NIV)

Opening: *“Money is a new form of slavery, and distinguishable from the old simply by the fact that it is impersonal – that there is no human relation between master and slave”* — Leo Tolstoy. Today, we are going to talk about being a servant to God, rather than a slave to money.

Q. Describe how an unhealthy relationship with money, the drive of materialism, and the desire for more can cause a person to become like a slave?

Read: ***“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”*** Luke 16:13 (NLT)

Q. Do you think Jesus is being too extreme in His teaching about money?

Read the box to the right- **What (or who) is Mammon?**

Q. What would it mean (or look like) to “despise” the spirit of mammon in your life?

Read: ***“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”*** James 1:17 (ESV)

Q. If money is a cruel master, how does it feel to know that God is a gracious and generous Father?

Q. What are some of the “good gifts” that your Father has blessed you with? What are some of the “perfect gifts” He has generously shared with you?

What (or who) is “Mammon”?

“You cannot serve God and mammon.”

The New King James Version uses the term “mammon” instead of money; but what (or who) is “mammon”? In ancient times, the Syrians worshipped a pagan god of wealth called mammon. In Jewish culture, mammon came to represent this evil spirit of materialism, lust, and greed. Whether you consider mammon to be an descriptor, or an evil being, the spirit of mammon is alive and at work in our world today. Serving mammon may not be as obvious as the blatant idolatry of the ancient world, but it can be seen in our marketing, when we envy others’ possessions, worry about our unmet needs, refuse to practice generosity or stewardship, and find our identity or self-worth in stuff and success. Mammon will always leave you wanting more and feeling like you do not have enough. It cannot give you peace, or lasting joy, and it will never fulfill you or bring you significance.

Scarcity vs. Abundance Mindset: Many people today are teaching on this concept, but its roots can be found in the Bible. A scarcity mindset holds that there will never be enough, that resources are limited, and that the best thing you can do is to gather and hold on tightly to as much as you possibly can. An abundance mindset believes that the best is yet to come, and that there is always enough in God’s economy. Thus, a person can be gracious, generous, and at peace, no matter what the ledger might show.

Q. What is your default mindset when it comes to your time, talent, and treasure? (Please note, this is not, what you want or hope to be, but what your default position is. If someone were to “audit” your calendar and your banking transactions, which mindset would it most likely reveal?)

Q. If you are married, what about your spouse? Does a difference in mindsets ever set you at odds with one another?



Abundance vs Scarcity Mindset Quiz

Answer the following questions: True or False

- 1) I always have enough time to pray. ____
- 2) My wife shows me enough attention. ____
- 3) Taking vacations is easy for me. ____
- 4) I need to work evenings and weekends, or I will get behind. ____
- 5) It is not realistic for me to give 10% of my income to God right now. ____
- 6) I get upset and anxious when an unexpected bill pops up. ____
- 7) My wife doesn't feel like she is getting the best of me. ____
- 8) I love volunteering and serve regularly. ____
- 9) I can't relax because other people aren't doing their job. ____
- 10) I feel confident that we will make it through a job loss, pay decrease, or rise in costs. ____
- 11) If I teach other co-workers how to thrive, I could lose business or income. ____
- 12) Before I can give generously, I need to make sure I have all my needs first. ____
- 13) My wife and I are financially prepared to start a family. ____
- 14) I am getting the sleep and exercise that I need to be at my best. ____
- 15) As a family, we make time to eat dinner together and attend church.

Challenge: Take a minute to complete the True or False Quiz on Abundance vs Scarcity Quiz: You will notice that we do not include the answers. Discuss your response and what you believe the correct response should be. Take this challenge to the next level by going through it with your spouse &/or family.

The Diderot Effect: Though we serve a generous God of abundance, this does not mean God wants us to spend money recklessly. In our video, Warren introduced the concept of the Diderot Effect; how one spending decision can ultimately spiral into a flurry of other unplanned spending decisions. Example: *"I decide to take a snowboard trip to Vail; I end up buying an Epic Pass, paying for a flight, rental car, & Air BNB. Then I decide I need to upgrade my snowboard, & buy new bindings, & boots. Before long, I add a new jacket, pants, gloves, goggles, helmet... etc."*

Q. What do these types of spending patterns say about us?

Q. How do we avoid falling into these snowballing spending patterns, so that we do not become trapped by the constant urge to accumulate more?

Read: ***"Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction."*** 1 Timothy 6:9

Q. What do the words, "fall," "trap," and "plunge" reveal

about the nature of many financial woes?

Insight: Most people don't wake up and think, "Today, I am going to ruin and destroy my life." It is usually the result of many small decisions and the beliefs, attitudes, and motivations driving them.

Conclusion: The expression, "Keeping up with the Joneses has been around for over 100 years. It started with a comic strip created by cartoonist "Pop" Momand in 1913. The comic depicts a family who is constantly struggling to "keep up" with their more affluent neighbors, the Joneses. Even today, many men carry the stress of keeping up with their more affluent friends. This can produce overspending, debt, relational stress, or financial mismanagement, making you feel like a slave to your money and stuff. Do not fall into the trap. Serving God will set you free from slavery to money. Believe God is enough, and if you have God, you have enough.

Session 3: Good News: A Healthy Relationship With Money Produces Healthy Relationships

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Luke 16

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"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."*** Luke 16:13



Session 3: Good News: A Healthy Relationship With Money Produces Healthy Relationships

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Luke 16

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“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.”*** Luke 16:13 (NIV)

Opening: Raise your wallet if you have ever gotten in an argument about money with your spouse or loved ones! OK, put your wallet away, but remember you are not alone when it comes to money conflicts in the home. According to several studies, money & communication are the top 2 conflicts in marriage & the number 1 cause of stress in relationships. 22% of divorces (according to the Institute for Divorces Financial Analysis) are a result of a money issue. How can two people who love each other be torpedoed by such a fixable problem? For many, it is rooted in an unhealthy relationship with money, which causes unhealthy relationships in other areas of life.

Q. Our relationship with money is determined both by nature (how we are naturally wired) and nurture (how we were raised). Read the 6 Types of Money Relationships box and discuss where you see yourself & your family in these descriptions.

Q. How has your relationship to money impacted or influenced your relationship with your spouse or family?

Growth Challenge: Discuss with your spouse or family what your relationship with money was like growing up. How has that changed or remained the same? Acknowledge you may be bringing certain attitudes & assumptions about money into your relationship & discuss how to better understand & appreciate one another's differences.

Read: ***“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much.”*** Luke 16:10a (ESV)

Insight: This principle of faithfulness applies to every area of life, including our finances, marriage, & family.

Q. How might faithfulness in our finances increase faithfulness in our marriage or family?

Insight: Hiding your spending habits or short-circuiting your savings goals with unplanned purchases can create mistrust, bitterness, anxiety, & feelings of betrayal. An “innocent” decision to splurge can feel like a broken promise to your spouse or family. A survey by the National Endowment for Financial Education found that 36% of couples surveyed reported experiencing “financial infidelity”, such as hiding purchase or account information from their partner.

6 Types of Money Relationships

People have unique relationships with money, which are influenced by their personal values, experiences, and attitudes. Here are some different ways people relate to money:

1. Money is my source of security: *Safety & security are core values & as such, I believe it is important to prioritize saving & investing our money for a rainy day and I am cautious with our spending. I am not comfortable with taking risks & prefer a stable and secure lifestyle.*

2. Money is a means to achieving my goals: *In order to achieve our goals, we must be willing to spend money, invest in the future, & take significant risks to get ahead. Investing in our education, career, or business may cost more up front, but will pay off down the road.*

3. Money is a symbol of success: *I don't want to be a loser, always struggling to get by. I know I have made it when I am able to purchase the things I have always wanted & live a life of affluence & adventure.*

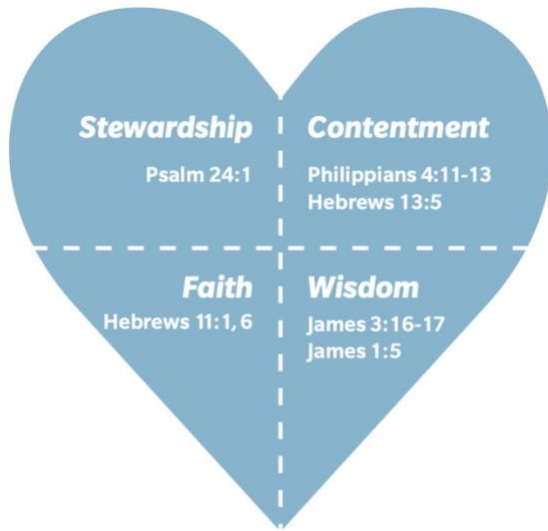
4. Money is a key to happiness: *To be happy, we need to be able to pay for the things that bring us joy. If we cannot afford certain experiences, purchase the things we desire, or live at a certain level, we will be missing out & unsatisfied with our lives.*

5. Money stresses me out: *Money is a regular source of stress & anxiety. Thinking about our financial situation (bills, debt, unknown expenses) leaves me feeling overwhelmed.*

6. Money is a taboo subject for me: *I do not like to talk about money, especially debt, how much we make, or how we spend it. I am uncomfortable discussing our finances with others & prefer to keep that private.*



Financial infidelity resulted in a higher likelihood of marital dissatisfaction & divorce.



STEWARDSHIP: Do I believe that God owns it all?

CONTENTMENT: Do I believe that what I have right now is enough?

FAITH: Do I believe that I demonstrate my faith through my finances?

WISDOM: Do I believe that God's wisdom is true and available?

Conclusion: You can't fix someone else's unhealthy relationship with money, but you can focus on improving your own. As you begin to describe how you are learning & growing personally, look for opportunities to discuss how you can grow together.

Session 4: Good News: Ordering Your Finances Brings Confidence And Clarity

Watch The Video:

<https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: 2 Corinthians 9

Scripture Memory Verse: **"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this," says the LORD of Hosts. "See if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out for you blessing without measure."** Malachi 3:10

Marriage Tip: Talking about money before you earn it is much better than yelling about money after you spend it.

Q Do you review your financial goals & budget with your spouse regularly? Are money conversations usually more reactionary or intentional?

Q. Have you & your spouse ever met with a financial advisor, or mentor? Why or why not?

Review the four quadrants of the heart in this graphic provided by Ronald Blue Trust. Read each of the Scriptures & discussing the questions below.

DTR: Define The Relationship (*In 2-3 sentences describe your desire for a healthy relationship with money*)

Take turns reading your DTR out loud & discuss how living out this healthy relationship with money will impact your other relationships (marriage, parenting, family, work, etc)

SEX & MONEY

A healthy relationship with money can greatly improve intimacy with your spouse. Consider these **3 Money Issues That Impact May Your Sex Life**

- 1. Frustration about Spending-** Bitterness, sarcasm, negative comments, or mistrust about money will never foster intimacy. Setting & keeping a budget can be a blessing in the bedroom.
- 2. Worry about Money-** Anxiety about bills produces short tempers & impatience. Resist over-spending and create financial margin to reduce worry about money and your spouse will be able to relax much more quickly.
- 3. Overworking-** If you or your spouse are perpetually hurried & exhausted; it's very difficult to foster intimacy. "Quickies" are rarely appreciated when intentional time has not been set aside on a regular basis. Remember, men may be like microwaves, but women are like crock pots!



Session 4: Good News: Ordering Your Finances Brings Confidence And Clarity

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: 2 Corinthians 9

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this," says the LORD of Hosts. "See if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out for you blessing without measure."*** Malachi 3:10

Opening: The journey to financial freedom begins with acknowledging that everything we earn belongs to God but has been entrusted to us to steward wisely. When we begin to take leadership over our finances (instead of letting our finances control us), we have the potential to gain financial freedom. None of this is possible, however, until you first learn to live according to a budget.

Q. Do you have a budget? When did you first begin to practice setting and following a budget?

Read: ***"Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds, for riches do not last forever; and does a crown endure to all generations?"*** Proverbs 27:23-24

Q. Can you "know well the condition of your finances" if you are not tracking your money and keeping a budget? How have you seen money "leak" when you are not keeping a budget?

Insight: Setting a budget is an essential step to having any success in effectively managing your resources. However, God calls us to set a budget according to His priorities and wisdom.

Q. If someone were to audit your financial spending, how would they identify your priorities?



7 Buckets: Order the following buckets in terms of your priorities & the percentage of your gross income (total earnings before taxes or deductions). Use the Scriptures to help guide your thinking.

1) Tithes - *"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops."* Proverbs 3:9

2) Taxes - *"Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."* Mark 12:17

3) Savings - *"In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."* - Proverbs 21:20

4) Investment - *"Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow."* Proverbs 13:11

5) Budget - *"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?"* Luke 14:28

6) Charitable Giving - *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* 2 Corinthians 9:7

7) Personal Enjoyment - *"I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live."* Ecclesiastes 3:12

Q. Reflecting over the 7 Buckets exercise, what challenges you the most in your thinking & attitude?

Q. Do you believe there are any necessary changes you (& your family) need to make to align your budget & priorities with God's Word? Explain.



How To Talk To Your Spouse About Setting A Budget

If you & your spouse struggle with finances, setting a budget can be an excellent way to get things back on track. However, it can be tricky to broach the subject without causing conflict or making your partner feel like you're criticizing their spending habits. Here are some tips on how to talk to your spouse about setting a budget:

- 1. Choose the right time and place:** Avoid bringing up the subject of budgeting in the middle of a fight or when your spouse is already stressed. Instead, wait until you're both in a calm, relaxed state, and try to set aside a specific time to have the conversation. Also, try to find a quiet place where you can have an uninterrupted conversation.
- 2. Use "I" statements:** Avoid accusing or blaming your spouse for financial problems. Instead, use "I" statements to express how you feel. For example, "I feel stressed about our finances, and I think setting a budget could help us feel more in control." Model humble leadership by acknowledging your own struggles & doubts.
- 3. Be honest about your own shortcomings:** If you've made financial mistakes in the past, owning up to it can help your spouse feel more comfortable about talking openly about their own habits. If appropriate, share how the Lord has convicted & challenged you to grow in this area.
- 4. Listen actively:** Hear your spouse out and take their concerns and objections seriously. Listen actively, without interrupting or jumping in with solutions. Try to understand where they're coming from & show that you're committed to finding a solution that works for both of you. Refer to James 1:19-20 for a time-tested game plan for effective communication.
- 5. Set clear goals:** Begin by praying & discussing Scripture together, then identify what your financial goals are as it relates to giving, saving, paying off debt, preparing for future expenses, and retirement. Setting clear, measurable goals can help you both stay motivated & accountable.
- 6. Establish a plan:** Work together to create a budget that meets your goals while also being realistic & flexible. Consider inviting a counselor, advisor, or parent to assist you in this process. Discuss your spending priorities & make compromises where necessary.
- 7. Check in regularly:** Regularly checking in on your budget and finances can help you identify problems early on and adjust as needed. Set a specific time each week or month to review your progress & make any necessary changes.

Read: How To Talk To Your Spouse About Setting A Budget

Q. If you (and your spouse) had clarity on your priorities and agreement on your budget, how would it give you greater confidence in your future?

IMPACT Bonus Resources: See these attached resources provided by our friends at Ronald Blue Trust-

<https://ronblueinstitute.com/tools/>

- **How To Create A Spending Plan**
- **Practicing Financial Freedom**

Insight: 60% of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck & 57% are unable to afford a \$1,000 emergency expense. Only 32% of Americans have a budget (or "spending plan"). If you feel like you are one step ahead of a financial snowball, you are not alone, but there is help and hope.

Q. What are some practical next steps that you can take to make progress in ordering your finances?

Challenge: One of the Enemy's greatest weapons is to convince us to keep our struggles secret, and to try to fix the problem in isolation. Commit to inviting wise and caring counselors & guides into your life to help you develop a plan to get fiscally fit & aligned with your priorities.

Conclusion: Larry Burkett, the founder of Crown Financial Ministries once said, "If you'll do now what other people won't, you'll do later what other people can't." At first glance, there is nothing "sexy" about making and abiding by a budget, but it is a key contributor to feeling "free." According to one study by www.budgetsaresexy.com, "couples who regularly track and discuss a household budget are 1) 50% more likely to report being "extremely happy" in their relationship, and 2) over 33% more likely to report having a great sex life." Couples who can work together to build a Spending Plan that aligns with their priorities and factors in space for margin will be significantly more confident in their life and marriage.

Session 5: Good News: Demystifying Debt And Building Credit

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Proverbs 22

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender."*** Proverbs 22:7



Session 5: Good News: Demystifying Debt And Building Credit

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Proverbs 22

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender."*** Proverbs 22:7

Opening: DEBT is a four letter word that can stir up a lot of emotions in a man, his marriage, or his family. Dave Ramsey is very vocal about his perspectives on debt saying, "The belief that you can manage debt and have a healthy financial life is a myth." Ramsey also says, "Debt is one of the biggest weapons the enemy uses against believers to crush their finances and their faith."

Q. Describe the way you were brought up to think about debt? Have your perspectives changed?

Q. Do you and your wife see eye to eye on the subject of debt? Explain.

Read: ***"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender."*** Proverbs 22:7

Insight: Clearly, being in financial debt is not the optimal position in most cases, but the Bible does not classify debt as sin, nor does it specify that debt is always wrong or inappropriate.

Q. What are examples of debt that may be necessary or even wise?

Q. What are examples of debt that are foolish?

Read: ***"When you were dead in your trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our trespasses, having canceled the debt ascribed to us in the decrees that stood against us. He took it away, nailing it to the cross!"*** Colossians 2:13-14 (BSB)

Insight: Whether you have ever been in debt financially, we all have been in debt spiritually. Thankfully, Jesus Christ paid a debt we could never cover through His death on the cross.

Q. How does it feel to know that your greatest debt problem was covered by Jesus?

Q. What similarities/differences are there between spiritual debt & financial debt?

While Jesus paid it all to remove our spiritual debt, we may have to combine wisdom, work, discipline, and dependence upon God to overcome our financial debt situation.

7 Steps for Overcoming Debt

As Dave Ramsey says, those who are in debt should work to escape debt with "gazelle intensity." Here are some tried and true principles, founded on Scripture.

1. Acknowledge the problem and seek God's guidance. *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."* James 1:5

2. Create a budget, cut unnecessary expenses & live within your means. *"The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get."* Proverbs 21:20

3. Avoid borrowing money on depreciating assets as much as possible. *"Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit. In the blink of an eye wealth disappears, for it will sprout wings and fly away like an eagle."* Proverbs 23:4-5 (NLT)

4. Focus on paying off debts with the highest interest rates first. *"For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their contemporaries than the people of light."* Luke 16:8 (NET)

5. Consider debt consolidation or seeking financial counseling. *"The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but*

Americans and Debt

7 surprising statistics about Americans & Debt

1. Total household debt in the United States reached \$14.56 trillion at the end of 2020.
2. The average credit card debt per household is \$5,315.
3. Up to 80% of Americans are in debt, with an average debt of \$38,000 per person.
4. The student debt in the United States passed \$1.7 trillion in 2021, affecting over 44 million borrowers.
5. The median mortgage debt of American homeowners is \$200,000.
6. 35% of Americans have debt in collections, including medical debt, student loan debt, & unpaid bills.
7. 40% of Americans do not have enough savings to cover an unexpected expense of \$400 or more.



the righteous is generous and gives” Psalm 37:21

6. Practice generosity and continue to build good credit. “If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?” Luke 16:11

7. Trust in God's provision and plan for your life. *“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”* - Matthew 6:33

Growth Challenge: If you desire to break free from debt, the worst thing you can do is keep the problem private. Begin by talking to your wife/family about the problem, and then invite wise counselors to support and guide you through this process. Remember, the Lord cares about you- ***“Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.”*** Psalm 107:19

Insight: The concept is very simple- Wealth and financial freedom come from spending less than you earn. Debt and financial slavery come from spending more than you earn. The key (in most situations) is to remember the multiplying power of delayed gratification to pay first, enjoy later instead of enjoy first, pay later. ***“God knows how to give you more than enough of what you need for today, and still meet your needs tomorrow.”*** Proverbs 30:25

Watch This Video: <https://vimeo.com/199334296> ***“Don’t Buy Stuff You Can’t Afford”***

Q. Describe a time you purchased something impulsively, or a time you saved until you could pay for it. Which of those experiences was more difficult? Which made you feel better in the end?

Q. Are there any purchase you are considering that might need to be delayed, or reconsidered in order to avoid wealth? What about recurring expenses that may straining your ability to have financial margin or practice generosity?

Consider This: Life happens. 60% of United States adults, including 4 in 10 high-income consumers, live paycheck to paycheck, meaning that an emergency, medical issue, or job loss would almost certainly create a debt problem.

4 Steps To Prevent Unexpected Costs From Producing Debt

1) Have insurance and cover your highest deductible. 79 million Americans have financial hardships and debt due to medical bills. Insure your family and be prepared to pay your highest deductible.

2) Eliminate High Interest Debt. Get rid of all high interest credit card debt and do not use a credit card unless you can pay it off at the end of the month with absolute certainty.

3) Emergency Reserves. Begin by having \$1,000 saved for an emergency. Work to have 2-6 months of family expenses covered in case of work stoppage.

4) Pray about every significant purchase and every unexpected expense. God cares and has something to say to you about your finances and His provision. Let God have the final say.

Conclusion: The principle of reaping and sowing reminds us persistence and discipline always pays off. Don’t give up on doing the right thing, the good thing, in order to experience the short lived pleasure of the easy thing. Reflect on these words from Scripture- ***“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”*** Galatians 6:7-10

Session 6: Good News: Best Practices and Biblical Principles

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: James 4:1-5:6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“You do not even know what will happen tomorrow! What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”*** James 4:14 (BSB)

PRACTICING FINANCIAL FREEDOM

LIVE

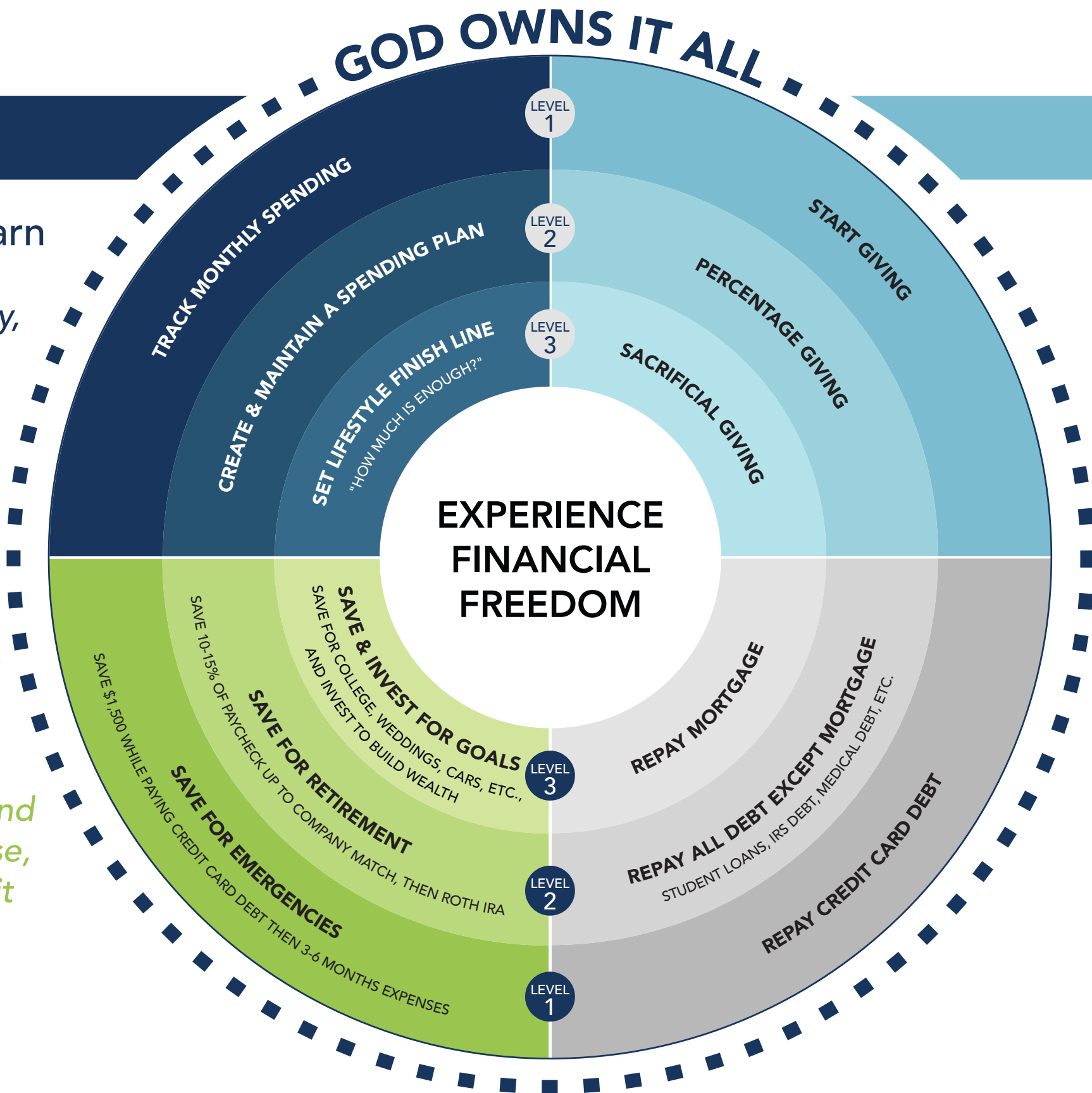
Spend Less than you Earn

*Lazy hands make for poverty,
but diligent hands bring
wealth. Proverbs 10:4*

GROW

Build Savings

*There is precious treasure and
oil in the dwelling of the wise,
But a foolish man swallows it
up. Proverbs 21:20*



GIVE

Give Generously

*Store up your treasures
in heaven... Your heart
will always be where
your treasure is.
Matthew 6:20*

OWE

Avoid the Use of Debt

*The rich rule over the poor,
and the borrower is slave to
the lender. Proverbs 22:7*



HOW TO CREATE A SPENDING PLAN

One of the final steps in your study is to create your own Spending Plan, or budget. Once you have created your Spending Plan, use the plan to keep track of your spending, so that you can control your spending. This process will lead to having margin that you can use to pay off debt and save for the future.

You want your Spending Plan to be realistic and accurate. To fill out the first column of numbers – the monthly budget – you will probably have to estimate. A good, fairly quick way to get an accurate estimate is to gather your bank statements and credit card statements for the last two or three months. Write down what you have actually spent for as many of the categories as apply to you. Don't forget to write down expenses that do not occur monthly, such as certain insurance payments, estimated taxes, ad valorem tax, etc. (anything that is billed to you quarterly, semi-annually or annually)

As part of this process, you will need to estimate where you spend your cash. Don't forget little things like a soda at the gas station or cash you give your kids. The cash estimates will probably be the numbers that you have to refine the most, because most people don't pay very much attention to a dollar here and a dollar there. A way to keep track of cash you spend is to carry a small spiral notebook with you and record cash spent just as you would record checks written in your check register. Writing down what you are spending as soon as you spend it will let you get an accurate record of how much cash you spend. After you have kept track of your spending for a couple of months, you may be surprised by how much cash you spend.

An area that most of you will not have to estimate is your monthly income. The best way to estimate income, if you receive a regular paycheck, is to take the numbers straight off your pay stub. If you do not receive a regular paycheck, you still probably have a pretty good idea of what your income is going to be. If not, go back and use the last few months' bank statements so you can see how much money you have coming in. If your income is inconsistent, use averaging over a long period of time and then make your best guess, using a conservative estimate.

Once you have your Spending Plan written down, you need to start keeping track of what you are spending. There are several ways you can do this. You could use the envelope system. Using this system involves putting the budgeted amount of cash in several categorized envelopes, and only allowing yourself to spend until the money is gone. We would suggest that when you spend money, you put the receipt in the envelope when you take the cash out. Then you will not forget where you spent your money. This is a good system to control overspending. Another way you can keep track of your spending is to keep receipts for everything that you spend. Remember to even keep the receipts for small amounts that you spend. Then, at regular intervals, add up and write down what you have spent. You can also come up with your own system that works best for you. The most important thing is that you have a system, and that you keep track of everything you are spending.



A couple of other notes about your Spending Plan:

1. Your spending should be less than or equal to your income. If it is not, find the areas that can be reduced. You should not ever plan to spend more than you earn.
2. Your Spending Plan should be flexible. If you need more money in an area than you have budgeted, talk to your spouse about it, and make adjustments as you both feel is necessary.
3. After two or three months, go back and re-do your Spending Plan. At this point you will have kept track of your actual spending, and you will know where you need to make changes to your estimates.
4. Continually look at your spending to see where you can save money. A good example of this is your phone/cable/internet bills. Keep up with whether your cost could be less if you simply make a phone call to your current provider and ask for a deal, or switch providers.



SPENDING PLAN WORKSHEET

Monthly Budget		Monthly Actual		
INCOME	Estimate	Month One	Month Two	Month Three
Salary #1				
Minus Taxes				
Minus Insurance				
Minus Savings - 401(k), etc.				
Total Salary #1				
Salary #2				
Minus Taxes				
Minus Insurance				
Minus Savings - 401(k), etc.				
Total Salary #2				
Bonus				
Investment Income				
Interest				
Dividends				
Sale of Investments				
Other Investment Income				
Total Investment Income				
Rental Income				
Social Security				
Retirement Income				
Alimony Received				
Child Support Received				
Gifts Received				
Other				
Total Income:				

SPENDING PLAN WORKSHEET

E1

Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual			
EXPENSES	Estimate	Month One	Month Two	Month Three
Automobile				
Ad Valorem Tax				
Car Payment #1				
Car Payment #2				
Fuel				
Insurance				
Maintenance				
Repairs				
Total Automobile				
Babysitting				
Cell Phone				
Charitable Contributions				
Church				
Other				
Other				
Total Contributions				
Clothing				
Person #1				
Person #2				
Person #3				
Person #4				
Total Clothing				
Education				
Childcare				
College				
Private School				
Total Education				
Food				
Groceries				
Dining Out				
Total Food				



SPENDING PLAN WORKSHEET

E2

Monthly Budget		Monthly Actual		
EXPENSES	Estimate	Month One	Month Two	Month Three
Gifts				
Housing				
Mortgage				
Taxes				
Insurance				
Home Repairs				
Yard Work				
Other:				
Total Housing				
Insurance				
Disability Insurance				
Separate Health Insurance				
Life Insurance				
Other Insurance				
Total Insurance				
Medical Expenses				
Dentist				
Doctor				
Eye Doctor				
Medicine				
Total Medical				
Utilities				
Cable				
Gas and Electric				
Internet				
Pest Control				
Security				
Telephone				
Water and Sewer				
Total Utilities				

SPENDING PLAN WORKSHEET

E3

Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual			
EXPENSES	Estimate	Month One	Month Two	Month Three
Miscellaneous				
Bank Fees				
Drug Store				
Dry Cleaning				
Extracurricular Activities				
Gym Membership				
Haircuts				
Pets				
Subscriptions				
Other				
Other				
Other				
Total Miscellaneous				
Savings				
Debt Repayment				
Credit Card #1				
Credit Card #2				
Credit Card #3				
Second Mortgage				
Other				
Other				
Other				
Total Debt Repayment				

Total Income

I

Total Expenses

 $E1 + E2 + E3 = E$

Budget Surplus/Shortfall

 $I - E$



Session 6: Good News: Best Practices and Biblical Principles

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: James 4:1-5:6

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"You do not even know what will happen tomorrow! What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."*** James 4:14 (BSB)

Opening: In the parable of the talents, Jesus indicates that the Master expected his servants to manage and multiply the money he entrusted to them- *"To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away."* **Matthew 25:29 NLT** The principle here is that the key to experiencing abundance is to be a faithful to steward with what you already have been given. Take for instance, a young man may not have a lot of money, but he does have time. Consistent investing in one's youth can be much more effective than larger sporadic investments later in life.

Q. What are some other ways to "use well" the financial resources God has entrusted to you?

Q. Were there any Biblical Principles & Best Practices from the video that stood out to you?

Insight: We have already covered several Best Practices & Biblical Principles for growing your finances in ways that honor God. While there may be some overlap in the following list, consider & discuss the following with your cohort:

7 Best Practices for Making Money and Multiplying Wealth

1. Develop a Financial Plan- A financial plan identifies where you are financially today & where you want to be in the future. Without proper planning, it can be difficult to achieve your financial goals.

Read: *"The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty."* Proverbs 21:5

Q. Do you (& your spouse) know your net worth?

Q. Have you established short-term (1-3 years), medium-term (3-5 years), & long-term (5+ years) financial goals? Give an example of each.

Q. Have you outlined the steps necessary to achieve your goals and plan?

Growth Challenge: SWOT Analysis- Consider examining the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats as it relates to your personal finances.

See the **IMPACT Bonus Resource** to get started.

2. Increase Your Income- There are two primary ways to increase your income- 1) Get paid more for your current work. Or, 2) Create new streams of income.

"A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich." Proverbs 10:4

Q. Are there any skills, passions, or needs you (or your spouse, or teenager) can meet that could provide you with additional sources of income?

Q. Are you earning a fair income based on your work, experience and education? Do you need to ask for a raise or seek out a higher paying job?

How To Know Your Net Worth

1. Make a list of your assets: Assets include everything you own that has value. This may include cash, investments, real estate, vehicles, & personal property. Look at bank statements, investment account statements, & property deeds.
2. Assign values to each asset: Once you have listed all your assets, you need to assign a dollar value to each asset. This can be done by either getting appraisals or using market values.
3. Make a list of your liabilities: Liabilities refer to everything you owe to others such as mortgages, car loans, credit card balances, & personal loans. Include all your debts.
4. Assign values to each liability: Assign a dollar value to each liability. Look at loan statements, credit card bills, & other statements.
5. Subtract your liabilities from your assets: Once you have values for all your assets & liabilities, subtract your liabilities from your assets to get your net worth. For example, if your assets are worth \$500,000 & your liabilities are worth \$200,000, your net worth would be \$300,000.
6. Update your net worth regularly: Your net worth will change as your assets & liabilities change, so be sure to update it regularly. Do this at least annually.



Q. How are you investing your finances? Are you utilizing every matching fund opportunity provided at work?

3. Increase Your Margin- One key to accumulating wealth is to spend less than you earn. Begin by creating a budget & sticking to it, but also examine how to reduce unnecessary expenses (eating out/coffee/alcohol, buying used, etc.). Pay off debt & avoid paying interest as quickly as possible & avoid lifestyle creep (spending more as your income increases).

*"Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication." -
Leonardo da Vinci*

Q. What are some realistic & practical ways to increase your margin by reducing your expenses?

Consider This: Tightening The Belt- Most families have to "tighten the belt" at some point when things get tight financially. Instead of being reactionary, try being intentional. If you know Christmas & summer vacation, usually put a stress on your budget, tighten the belt beforehand to build additional margin.

4. Educate yourself- Knowledge is power when it comes to building & maintaining wealth. A growth mindset is not only a way to grow in your career, but also to grow in life. Consider reading books, listening to podcasts, & taking courses on personal finance, investment, or starting a business. Meet with a financial advisor. Consider going back to school for further education or getting a new certification. Look for ways to add value to yourself, your family, & your employer.

Read: *"How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver."* Proverbs 16:16

Q. How might increasing your education or training help you earn a greater income in the future?

Q. What are some ways learning something, growing in understanding, or practicing wisdom has saved you money, or produced a greater financial windfall?

5. Invest Wisely- Investing can be an important way to grow your wealth over time. Get rich quick schemes rarely produce lasting results. Long term, disciplined saving & investing is the surest way to confidently gain wealth.

Read: *"Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man's dwelling, but a foolish man devours it."* Proverbs 21:20.

Q. Have you (& your spouse) met with a financial advisor to discuss your investments? What did you learn from that experience?

Q. Are there any other wise investment principles you would pass along?

6. Build your network- The saying, "it's all about who you know" exists for a reason. Networking can help you find business opportunities, connect with potential clients or investors, & learn from other successful entrepreneurs.

Read: *"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."* Philippians 2:4

Q. Do you feel comfortable with the idea of networking? How can a Christian network in a God-honoring way?

Insider Tip: The most effective way to network is to serve and build up others. Seeking to well-being of those around you will always make you a welcome guest, reference, employee, or employer.

7. Review and adjust your plan regularly- As your financial situation & goals change, it's important to review & adjust your plan accordingly.

Read: *"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."* Proverbs 19:21

Q. How will your approach to financial planning change during the various stages of life? Explain.

Conclusion: None of these practices and principles matter if a man does not have a strong connection with the Lord to draw from. *"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'"* Hebrews 13:5 Learning how to make & multiply



money while maintaining a humble & soft heart to God is both rare & possible. Practice the presence of God, and as your money grows, make sure your love for Christ surges far above anything else.

Session 7: Good News: A Legacy Of Eternal Worth

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Deuteronomy 8

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”*** Ephesians 2:10



IMPACT Bonus Resource: Financial SWOT Analysis (Married Couple)

A SWOT Analysis is a thinking and planning tool that can help any individual or organization grow, improve, and be better prepared for the future. Why not use a SWOT Analysis in establishing your financial plans? Fill out this SWOT Analysis, using these suggested insights for each quadrant-

<p>Strengths:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dual Income: As a couple, you have the advantage of having two incomes, which means more money to save and invest.2. Shared Expenses: Many expenses like rent, groceries, and utilities can be split between you, reducing the overall financial burden.3. Shared Goals: As a couple, you likely have shared financial goals such as saving for a down payment on a house or retirement. <p>Add Your Own:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">******	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Conflicting Goals: If you and your partner have different financial goals or values, it can lead to arguments and an inability to achieve your desired outcomes.2. Debt: If either of you has significant debt, it can impact your ability to save or invest.3. Unequal Income: If one spouse earns significantly more than the other, it can lead to resentment and tension in the relationship. <p>Add Your Own:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">******
<p>Opportunities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Investing: As a couple, you may have more opportunities to invest in things like stocks or real estate, which can help grow your wealth.2. Negotiation: Jointly negotiating with service providers and vendors can help you save money on monthly bills and other expenses.3. Career Growth: If one or both of you can increase your earning potential through education or career advancement, it can help improve your financial situation. <p>Add Your Own:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">******	<p>Threats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Emergencies: Unforeseen circumstances like job loss or medical emergencies can impact your finances.2. Inflation: Inflation can make your savings and investments less valuable over time.3. Economic Downturns: Economic downturns can impact job security and your ability to save money. <p>Add Your Own:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">******

Questions to Discuss Together:

1. Which of these areas do we most agree?
2. Are there any areas where we have conflicting financial values or goals? Or a different understanding?
3. Did this exercise reveal anything about your plans & goals? About each other's perspective or values?
4. What are the most important action steps you need to take considering this SWOT analysis?
5. Do you both agree to take these necessary steps?



IMPACT Bonus Resource: 4 Helpful Lists For Making Money

At times it can be easy to perceive that you are “stuck” with your current income status. Review these 4 Helpful Lists and put a check mark next to any idea that is worth pursuing right now.

List 1: Alternate Sources of Income-

1. Freelance writing or editing
2. Dog walking or pet sitting
3. Day trading or investing in stocks
4. Virtual bookkeeping or accounting
5. Website or graphic design services
6. Online tutoring or teaching
7. Event planning or coordination
8. Personal shopping or styling
9. Cleaning or organizing services
10. Renting out a spare room on Airbnb

List 2: Make a Passive Income-

1. Real estate investing, such as owning rental properties
2. Dividend stocks or index funds
3. Creating and selling digital products, such as e-books or courses
4. Investing in a high-yield savings account or CD
5. Monetizing a YouTube channel or blog through ads, sponsorships, or affiliate marketing
6. Owning a vending machine or laundry machine business
7. Licensing your creative work, such as music or photography
8. Building a mobile app or software that generates revenue
9. Buying and reselling domain names or websites
10. Investing in a franchise or business with a proven system and management team.

List 3: Ways to increase your salary at work-

1. Learn a new skill or earn a certification that is valuable to your company.
2. Take on additional responsibilities or leadership roles.
3. Improve your performance and productivity.
4. Build good relationships with colleagues and bosses.
5. Stay up-to-date with industry trends and changes.
6. Negotiate salaries during the hiring process.
7. Look for promotions within the company or opportunities to advance your career in another company.
8. Explore ways to supplement your income, such as taking on freelance work or a part-time job.
9. Network with other professionals in your field to uncover new job postings or potential opportunities.

List 4: Ask for a raise-

1. Schedule a meeting with your boss to discuss your compensation and job performance.
2. Research industry standards and salary data to support your request for a raise.
3. Highlight your accomplishments and contributions to the company.
4. Be confident and concise in your communication.
5. Be flexible and open to negotiating different compensation packages.
6. Avoid making demands or ultimatums.

****** Seek out the assistance of a professional financial advisor to help you make smart investment decisions. Investing always carries a degree of risk, so it is recommended that you do your research before making any investment decisions.



Session 7: Good News: A Legacy Of Eternal Worth

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Deuteronomy 8

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."*** Ephesians 2:10

Opening: A legacy is about more than just the wealth we leave behind, but really about creating a greater story that future generations can aspire to be a part of. Will your children, grandchildren, and beyond remember your character, your passion for God and family, your wisdom and generosity? A part of that legacy will be how you set up the family to experience spiritual and financial blessing. Today we will talk about how to live and leave a legacy of eternal worth.

Q. Is the idea of leaving a legacy of eternal worth important to you? Explain.

Q. How have you been impacted by the legacy of other men who have influenced you personally?

Growth Challenge: Before you focus on your own legacy, take a moment to text, call, or meet with a person who greatly influenced your life. Tell them "Thank You for your impact in my life" and then cite one specific lesson they taught you, or change they made in your life.

Q. Have you ever thought about your own eulogy? While it may seem morbid, it can be a very helpful and clarifying exercise to write down what you would want your loved ones to say about you after you have passed away.

"Our legacy is the imprint we leave on the lives of others. It's not about the length of our life, but the depth of our impact." -
Erwin McManus

IMPACT Bonus Resource: Legacy Assessment and Write Your Own

Eulogy Exercise- Take time this week to reflect deeply on your own legacy of eternal worth by taking an honest assessment and preparing your own eulogy.

Read: ***"A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children..."*** Proverbs 13:22

Q. How do you respond emotionally to this verse? Does this make you feel excited, anxious, intimidated, inspired? Where are those feelings coming from?

6 Essential Steps For Leaving An Honorable Inheritance

There is far more content for this subject that we could ever hope to cover, but do not miss these absolutely essential items in preparing your inheritance for your loved ones.

1) Leaving A Legacy of Faith

Read: ***"Don't store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal."*** Matthew 6:19-20

Q. How are you investing in heavenly treasure? Is your faith in Christ something you are actively pursuing and seeking to pass on to your loved ones? Explain.

"The only investment that lasts forever is one made in a person's soul. There is no greater joy than knowing that the legacy we leave is one that has the potential to impact lives for eternity." - Max Lucado

2) Leaving A Legacy of Wisdom

Read: ***"By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge the rooms are filled With all precious and pleasant riches."*** Proverbs 24:3-4

Insight: 70% of generational wealth is depleted after the second generation, and 90% after the third generation. It doesn't matter how much money you leave behind if your loved ones do not have the wisdom to manage it well. Commit to modeling, mentoring, and documenting financial wisdom for your children that will prepare them for long term financial success.



Q. What are some practical ways you can pass on financial wisdom to your loved ones?

Q. Dave Ramsey says, *"Education is the engine that drives generational wealth."* How are you investing in the education of your children, grandchildren, etc?

3) Prepare A Will

Insight: Creating a Will is a necessary part of leaving your family in a good place after you pass, even if you don't have a lot of assets. It's a legal record of your exact wishes for how your money and property should be distributed upon your passing. Moreover, it will help protect your wealth from legal and tax costs and protect your family from potential division and conflict. No matter your age, it is always wise and responsible to have a Will and make sure your loved ones understand your plans and wishes.

Read: ***"For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive."***
Hebrews 9:17

Q. The above verse indicates that the process of leaving a Will which takes effect at one's death is an idea that comes from God. Have you taken steps to prepare a Will?

Q. What advice would you give to a younger man about the importance of a Will?

4) Create An Estate Plan

Insight: You will likely need the help of an attorney to create an estate plan. The more assets you have, the more complicated your estate plan can get. An experienced professional will guide you through the process, asking you the right questions to make sure you create a well thought out estate plan that eases the transfer of assets, and minimizes headaches. This plan will include practical items like naming an executor to carry out the plan and the beneficiaries. It will also include funeral arrangements, desired charitable donations, custody of children, pets, and specifying specific plans for a family trust.

Q. Do you have an Estate Plan or a Family Trust?

Q. Do you think it is wise to leave all your assets to your children? What other options are worth considering?

5) Be Properly Insured

Insight: Medical costs and funeral expenses can wipe out a lot of ones remaining resources without proper insurance. Be wise and thoughtful to your loved ones by making sure you are properly insured so that they will not be left paying your bills or worse, covering your debts.

Read: ***"But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."*** 1 Timothy 5:8

Q. Do you feel comfortable with your current level of insurance coverage? Have you and your loved ones discussed what would be covered if you were to pass away unexpectedly?

6) Leaving Spiritual Heirlooms

Insight: *"Only one life twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."* CT Studd. Often, the most cherished family treasures are not bank accounts or houses, but significant spiritual heirlooms. It may be a family bible, a piece of décor, a symbol of a special moment or a remembrance of God's faithfulness. Along your journey, look to create, find, & establish spiritual heirlooms that will be of tremendous value to your loved ones.

Read: ***"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far the LORD has helped us.'"*** 1 Samuel 7:12

Q. Do you have any "Ebenezer's" that remind your family of God's faithfulness? Describe.

Conclusion: Leaving a legacy of eternal worth is the work of a lifetime. You cannot knock this out over the weekend, but you can take steps to prepare for the future immediately. In the remaining space, write down three key take-aways or action steps you can make this week to best move your legacy forward.



- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Session 8: Good News: You Can Be Content With God Your Provider

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Philippians 4

Scripture Memory Verse: ***“But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.”*** 1 Timothy 6:6-7



IMPACT Bonus Resource: Leaving A Legacy Of Eternal Worth
Legacy Assessment and Write Your Own Eulogy Exercise

Introduction: Death has a way of distilling what is most important and clarifying our values and priorities. While thinking about our own death is not a pleasant exercise, imagining the influence we desire to leave behind can be quite motivating. Take time to reflect not only on the financial legacy you are leaving, but more importantly, the eternal one. This tool is divided into two parts- A Growth Assessment and a Written Eulogy. Complete the Legacy Assessment first, and then use those insights to help you write the Eulogy you desire to have for each person you care about.

Part 1: Legacy Assessment: Consider your priorities in light of your envisioned future and your current reality. As a man, husband, father, leader, and friend, to get from where you are to where you desire to go will require an honest assessment of priorities and a conviction to make changes. For each person, consider three areas for reflection- 1) Relational 2) Spiritual 3) Financial.			
Current Reality →	Clarified Priorities →	Critical Changes/Steps →	Envisioned Future (start here then move to current reality)
Ex. My daughter and I have a good relationship, but could be closer and more emotionally in touch with each other. She is still growing in her understanding of what it means to live a life fully surrendered to God. I am only beginning to teach her how to understand finances from a Biblical perspective.	Special moments together. Talk about relationships, life decisions, priorities, and purpose. Give her wisdom in the areas of finances, work ethic, contentment, and generosity.	Establish a regular time for spending time together (Father / Daughter Date) Go through a book on Christian relationships together. Pray together and share what God is doing in our lives. Provide financial coaching and wisdom that will help her thrive. Help her set up an investment plan while she is still young.	I want to give my daughter away in marriage to a godly young man and have a close, loving relationship with her and her future family. I want her to have a personal relationship with the Lord, a commitment to the local church, and a heart for serving others. I want her to know how to manage her finances well and to multiply my financial inheritance with wisdom, generosity, and hard work.



Part 2: Written Eulogy- Using what you have written in the Legacy Assessment worksheet, write a brief eulogy that expresses the ideal you hope to leave behind in the minds and lives of your loved ones.

Example: My Wife: *"I want my wife to remember me as a loving, faithful husband who made her laugh, sacrificed for the good of her and our kids, helped her grow in her relationship with the Lord, and spent a lifetime humbly serving and pursuing her. I want her to remember the times we prayed together and played together as a loving couple. I want her to remember that I was always her biggest supporter, who cheered and pushed her to be her best and accomplish her dreams and goals. I also want her to feel great pride in knowing that anything that I accomplished in life is only possible because of her incredible faith, support, love and sacrifice. I want to make sure that she is financially secure in my passing, able to provide for all medical and funeral expenses and able to live fully and freely without any worries or anxieties about her financial care."*

Spouse:

Son/Daughter:

Son/Daughter:

Grandchildren:

Friends/Other Loved Ones:



Session 8: Good News: You Can Be Content With God Your Provider

Watch The Video: <https://www.impactplayers.org/cohorts/pages/good-news-for-your-finances>

ABC Bible Study Method: Philippians 4

Scripture Memory Verse: ***"But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world."*** 1 Timothy 6:6-7

Opening: John D. Rockefeller, the founder of the Standard Oil Company, the first billionaire of the United States of America and once the richest man on Earth was asked by a reporter, *"How much money is enough?"* He calmly replied, *"Just a little bit more."*

Q. Do you ever feel like Mr. Rockefeller? No matter how much you have, it always feels like a little bit more would do the trick? Explain.

"Contentment is natural wealth." - Socrates

Insight: In 1 Timothy 6:6, Paul says, ***"godliness with contentment is great gain,"*** but in Philippians 4:11 he says, ***"I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content."*** Clearly, getting ahead has a lot more to do with our faith than it does with our finances.

Q. If God were to try to teach you how to be content in "whatever situation" you were in, what might be some ways He might accomplish that learning goal?

Insight: Contentment is about being at peace with where you are at, even if it is not where you want to be. It is believing that- God is enough. You are enough. You can have peace and experience well-being, even if your circumstances do not change. It is healthy to want to go beyond your current circumstances, but contentment reminds you that you do not need those things to be happy.

Confidence and Contentment Dashboard: Reflect on these different areas of finances and career. On the left side rank your confidence level (1-10) on how you feel you are doing in that area. On the right side, rank your contentment level (1-10) on how content you feel in your present circumstances. In the bottom section, include any reflections or take-aways after completing this dashboard.

___ Job Security ___	___ Preparing Children Financially ___	___ Communicating with Spouse about \$ ___	___ Emergency Savings ___
___ Housing ___	___ Cost of Living ___	___ College Savings ___	___ Retirement ___
___ Investments ___	___ Tithe ___	___ Charitable Giving ___	___ Inheritance ___
___ \$ Wisdom ___	___ Kingdom Work ___	___ Career Progress ___	___ Current Income ___

Reflections and Insights:

Q. Where do you feel most confident? Least confident?

Q. Where do you feel most content? Least content?

Q. Is there any correlation between confidence and contentment for you?

Read: ***"Above all, fear the LORD and serve Him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things He has done for you."*** 1 Samuel 12:24.



Insight: Consider this a 3 point game plan for experiencing both success and contentment in life. Reflect on the following and discuss how to live this out more intentionally.

1) Fear the Lord: When we fear the opinions of man instead of the commands of God, we are destined to make poor choices that steal our joy and distract us from our mission.

Q. How might a healthy fear of the Lord bring wisdom, and potentially wealth?

Q. How can worrying about what other people think negatively influence our spending/stewardship?

2. Serve Him Faithfully: When our focus is on serving God and others instead of gratifying ourselves, we will see our finances as a tool for making a difference instead of being happy.

Q. What are ways you can serve God faithfully with your finances?

Q. How does a servant leader mentality shift the way you handle your finances?

3. Consider What Great Things God Has Done For You: Contentment and Gratitude go hand in hand.

Whether it be in your own soul, your marriage, or with your kids, what are some practical ways to cultivate a culture of Contentment and Gratitude?

Q. How are you practicing gratitude in your life, marriage, and family? What are some specific ways you bring gratitude into your life?

Consider This: Reflect on the lyrics of this old hymn with your family- *"Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your blessings, see what God hath done; Count your blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done."* Go around the table, naming one blessing at a time. See how long you can go without stopping or repeating a blessing.

Q. What is the link between gratitude and contentment? What is the link between comparison and being discontent?

Growth Challenge: Gratitude for the Timeless and Timebound Blessings of God- Do you have a gratitude journal? Consider beginning each day by expressing gratitude for a timeless blessing from God. This is not something that can be altered or taken away from you. For example- "Today, I am grateful that God's mercies are new every morning." At the end of the day, write down one timebound blessing from God. This is something that is more situational. For example- "Today, I am grateful that I got to encourage and pray with my co-worker."

Conclusion: We hope you have enjoyed this IMPACT Coaching Cohort. There is always more to learn, and room for growth no matter how far you go in your faith, how well you do in your finances, how long you have been married, or how old your kids are. Life is not static... it is always changing, and so must you! There is no growth without change. End this series session by sharing some of the changes you have made, and some of the changes you would like to make as a result of this cohort study. After each person has shared, take time to pray for one another, encourage each other, and discuss your plans for succeeding in your goals!

"Once you start learning and apply the principles outlined in God's Word, you begin to understand that God owns everything, we are simply stewarding His resources. Contentment comes from being grateful and following sound advice."-
Dave Ramsey

"My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." - Philippians 4:19



Good News For Your Finances: Review Quiz

Introduction: Throughout this course, we have explored various aspects of financial management through a biblical lens. We have learned that our worth is not determined by our wealth and that having a healthy relationship with money can lead to healthy relationships overall. Understanding debt and creating a budget can bring clarity and confidence, while practicing gratitude and being content with what God has provided brings peace and satisfaction. Together we learned how to pass on financial wisdom and create a legacy of eternal worth. Use the following quiz to remind yourself and reflect on what you have learned in this study.

Session 1 Quiz: Good News: Your Worth Is Not Your Wealth

1. True or False: Our self-worth should be determined by our financial or career success.
2. True or False: Comparison is a healthy way to measure our value and worth.
3. True or False: Our money personality type can influence our relationships and sense of self-worth.
4. True or False: All humans have inherent dignity and value because they are created in the image of God.

Session 2 Quiz: Good News: You Have A Gracious Father and Generous Master

1. True or False: An unhealthy relationship with money can lead a person to become like a slave.
2. True or False: Mammon is a pagan god of wealth that is worshipped in the present day.
3. True or False: The abundance mindset believes that there is always enough in God's economy.
4. True or False: The Diderot Effect is a spending pattern that can lead to many unplanned spending decisions.

Session 3 Quiz: A Healthy Relationship With Money Produces Healthy Relationships

1. True or False: Money & communication are the top 2 conflicts in marriage & the number 1 cause of stress in relationships.
2. True or False: A healthy relationship with money can greatly improve intimacy with your spouse.
3. True or False: Encouraging faithfulness in our finances can increase faithfulness in our marriage or family.
4. True or False: Financial infidelity resulted in a higher likelihood of marital dissatisfaction & divorce.

Session 4 Quiz: Good News: Ordering Your Finances Brings Confidence And Clarity

1. True or False: Setting a budget is an essential step to effectively managing your resources.
2. True or False: According to Proverbs 27:23-24, it is possible to "know well the condition of your finances" without tracking your money and keeping a budget.
3. True or False: The 7 Buckets exercise encourages people to prioritize their spending based on God's word.
4. True or False: According to one study by www.budgetsaresexy.com, couples who regularly track and discuss a household budget are more likely to report being "extremely happy" in their relationship.

Session 5 Quiz: Good News: Demystifying Debt And Building Credit

1. True or False: The Bible classifies all forms of debt as sin.
2. True or False: Financial and spiritual debt share no similarities or differences.
3. True or False: Creating a budget and living within your means is an important step to overcoming debt.
4. True or False: Having insurance and emergency reserves can help prevent unexpected costs from producing debt.

Session 6 Quiz: Good News: Best Practices and Biblical Principles

1. True or False: According to the parable of the talents, the key to experiencing abundance is to be a faithful steward with what you already have been given.
2. True or False: To increase your income, you can either get paid more for your current work or create new streams of income.
3. True or False: Building your network can help you find business opportunities, connect with potential clients



or investors, and learn from other successful entrepreneurs.

4. True or False: None of the practices and principles mentioned in the session matter if a person does not have a strong connection with the Lord to draw from.

Session 7 Quiz: Good News: A Legacy Of Eternal Worth

1) True or False: Leaving a financial inheritance is the most important part of creating a legacy.

2) True or False: Modeling, mentoring, and documenting financial wisdom is important for passing on to future.

3) True or False: Creating a Will is only important for those with a lot of assets.

4) True or False: Insurance is not important when preparing for your legacy.

Session 8 Quiz: Good News: You Can Be Content With God Your Provider

1. True or False: Contentment comes from being grateful and following sound advice.

2. True or False: Fear of the Lord can bring wisdom and potentially wealth.

3. True or False: Practicing gratitude can lead to contentment.

4. True or False: Comparison can lead to being discontent.

Conclusion: By applying the Best Practices and Biblical Principles outlined in this course, we can truly steward our finances in a way that honors God and leads to a fulfilled life. Remembering that our worth is not in our wealth opens up a world of possibilities and forges healthy relationships with money, ourselves, and others. We hope that this course has been a valuable resource for you and that you will continue to apply the principles learned here for the rest of your life.

Answer Key:

Session 1: 1) False 2) False 3) True 4) True

Session 2: 1) True 2) True 3) True 4) True

Session 3: 1) True 2) False 3) True 4) True

Session 4: 1) True 2) False 3) True 4) True

Session 5: 1) False 2) False 3) True 4) True

Session 6: 1) True 2) True 3) True 4) True

Session 7: 1) False 2) True 3) False 4) False

Session 8: 1) True 2) True 3) True 4) True