

Part 8: The High Cost of Giving Pastor Grant Fishbook February 28 & March 1, 2009

#### Luke 16:10-13

<sup>10</sup> "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. <sup>11</sup> So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

 $^{\rm 13}$  "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

#### Choose today whom you will serve:

SERVING MONEY	SERVING GOD
a. Make it	a. <u>Earn</u> it
b. Own it	b. <u>Steward</u> it
c. Hoard it	c. <u>Save</u> it
d. Save it	d. <u>Repay</u> it
e. Give it	e. <u>Enjoy</u> it

Stewardship is not a matter of income, it's a matter of trust.

### God's Plan: T-R-U-S-T

#### Track your finances

Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations. —Proverbs 27:23-24

#### **R**eturn ten percent to its rightful owner

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. – Malachi 3:10

On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. – 1 Corinthians 16:2

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. – Proverbs 3:9-10

# Use good planning to gain victory

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty – Proverbs 21:5

"...stupid people spend their money as fast as they get it." (Good News Bible) – Proverbs 21:20b

## Save for the future

The wise store up choice food and oil. But fools gulp theirs down. – Proverbs 21:20

# Testify that "My God is enough!"

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

# Adding the "ING" to TRUST:

Stewardship is active. What part of your life can you re-prioritize today that will allow you to be a blessing both to God and to other people?

#### **Next Steps**

Register for the Good Sense Financial Seminar listed in the program. Sign up for the Crown Financial Class, also listed in the program.

### **On Your Way Home**

Count your blessings. Seriously, try and identify all of the things that God has blessed you with. See if you can do it all the way home!

Small Group Discussion Questions	<ol> <li>What's you personal approach to spending?</li> <li>a. If I want it – I get it</li> <li>b. He who dies with the most toys wins!</li> <li>c. I wait until I can afford it</li> <li>d. I only buy the necessities</li> </ol>
	2) Do you agree or disagree with the statement, "Steward- ship is not a matter of income, it's a matter of trust." Why?
	3) Which part of TRUST do you struggle with the most? How can we help?
	4) What does it mean to you to say, "My God is enough!"
	5) How can we pray for you tonight?