

GOD AND MONEY

Luke 16:13 NIV - 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.

DESCRIPTION

Everything we have is from God including our ability to make money. But somehow, money competes for our attention and affection. God delights to bless us as His children and to share His abundance with us. At the same time, He deserves to be the only one we worship and serve – not money.

Jesus was not afraid to talk about money and the potential hazards it can create for our walk of faith. If we turn our attention to money, it can choke out the work of God in our lives and create unneeded conflict. Money matters can stir up anxiety, fear, shame, and other wrong mindsets that Jesus desires to replace with certainty, joy, and freedom.

God desires to lead us into His abundance. We have to take steps to trust Him with our money. Therefore, the practice of God and Money is about trusting God with every aspect of our financial lives so that we worship and serve Him only.

TALK WITH GOD

In what ways have you based life decisions on money matters rather than obedience to God's guidance?

Do you find it difficult to include God in your finances? Your expenses? Your debts? Your hard-earned cash?

Do you believe God desires abundance for you?

PRAYER

Father, I worship you alone. Forgive me for the times I have made decisions based on finances rather than your guidance. Help me now to consecrate what I have to you and to trust you to guide me into your purposes and abundance. In Jesus' name, Amen.



PURPOSE:

To grow in trusting God in our finances.

To discern and align our priorities with God and His purposes.

To turn our financial decisions over to God.

SPIRITUAL FRUIT:

Repentance from self-reliance and the love of money.

Proper stewardship of the resources God has given us.

Increased trust in God's provision for our needs.

PRACTICE

1. Consecrate your finances to God. Present to Him your bank accounts, assets, expenses, debts, needs, and desires, etc.
 - As an act of faith, dedicate all you have to the Lord. Say, "God, I dedicate all I have to you. What's mine is yours."
 - As an act of faith, put God in control of your finances.
 - From now on, **your money is God's money** and your finances are God's responsibility.
2. As you present your finances to God, take note of any fears, shame, guilt, or condemnation that arises in you.
 - Tell the Lord how you feel and why you feel this way.
 - Ask the Lord to reveal to you any wrong beliefs you have about money. Take note of what He says and talk with Him about it.
 - Ask the Lord to set you free from financial sin, bondage to money, pain or shame linked with your financial history, and any ungodly patterns or cycles of curse and blessing.
 - Ask the Lord to renew your mind about finances with His stability, abundance, joy, freedom, and blessing.
3. Every day, **before you spend** any money on anything, **ask** the Lord for His permission to spend **His money** on it. Obey what He tells you.
 - For one week (at least) journal daily about how God led you to spend. Is there anything that surprises you?
 - Take note of any resistance, rebellion, anger, or selfishness rises up in you as you do this. Ask the Lord to help you submit to His guidance and to deepen your trust in Him.
4. From now on, let God guide all of your financial decisions.
 - Continue to obey Him daily in all your spending.
 - Trust Him to guide you in managing your accounts, assets, debts, needs, and desires. (Remember that He manages the whole world, so He knows how to do this.)

NOTES: _____



ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES:

Matthew 13:22

1 Timothy 6:9-10

Matthew
6:19-21

Luke 12:13-21

Deuteronomy
8:17-18

Matthew 7:9-11

Philippians
4:11-19

Hebrews 13:5

2 Corinthians 8:7

1 Kings 18:21

Proverbs 18:11

Proverbs 23:4

Proverbs 28:20

Proverbs 22:2

Proverbs 18:23