

The Treasure Principles

Giving in Light of Eternity

Stop Consuming and Start Investing

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / February 2, 2025

Principle #1 - God Owns Everything. I'm His Money Manager.

It's not your money. It's God's money, that He's entrusted to you.

The Bible teaches that when it comes to money, we're nothing but stewards or managers, which means you're going to give an account of how you spent every penny of it. God's not just going to ask you about the **10%**, He's going to ask you about **100%** of it, because it all came from Him.

Deuteronomy 8:18 "Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth..."

"I shovel out the money, and God shovels it back to me – it's just that God has a bigger shovel."

~ R.G. LeTourneau

A. You Can't Out-Give God

God doesn't get out the "big shovel" for people who are keeping it for themselves. He gets out the "big shovel" when He finds a man or woman whose greatest joy is sending it on ahead, investing in God's kingdom.

There's a special blessing and promise of protection when you tithe.

Malachi 3:10-11 "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. And thereby put Me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. ¹¹ I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts."

B. You Need A Budget To Manage God's Money

B-U-D-G-E-T is how you spell financial freedom. You need to start tracking every dollar. It's going to take some time, but it will be so worth it! You're going to have to sit down and figure out where your money's going, and then set some financial goals as to where it should be going.

Instead of just watching it go, you tell it where to go! That's what a budget does.

Financial freedom is not determined by how much you make, it's determined by how much you spend!

Proverbs 27:23-24 "Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and attend to your herds; ²⁴ for riches are not forever..."

In those days, most of your assets were tied up in cows, and sheep, and goats. So, he's saying you've got to know your assets and you've got to know where your money's going.

4 of the Best Budgeting Apps of 2025 are:

- You Need a Budget (YNAB)
- Every Dollar
- Pocket Guard
- Honeydue

Parents, teach your kids how to handle money as soon as they are old enough to get excited about it!

Principle #2 - My Heart Always Goes Where I Put God's Money

Matthew 6:19-21 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Where treasure goes, hearts will follow because money precedes passion. The Bible tells us there's an inescapable money-heart connection that you can watch play out in every human being.

People living the way God tells us not to live are actually found in every economic bracket, because it's a heart problem, not a money problem. The magnet of your money is pulling, tilting, and redirecting the passions and priorities of your heart towards where your money is going.

If you want to start caring more about our church family and lost people around the world, put more of your money there, and watch what happens!

“Suppose you buy shares of General Motors. What happens? You suddenly develop interest in GM. You check the financial pages. You see a magazine article about GM and read every word, even though a month ago you would have passed right over it. As surely as the compass needle follows north, your heart will follow your treasure. Do you wish you cared more about eternal things? Then reallocate some of your money, maybe most of your money, from temporal things to eternal things. Watch what happens.”

~ Randy Alcorn, *The Treasure Principle*

Principle #3 - Heaven, Not Earth, Is My Home

If you really believe that, you'll start sending more of your money on ahead, to your eternal home, instead of piling it up here and leaving it all behind.

You can start building that picture gallery of God's faithfulness today, by deciding to give away at least **10%** of your income.

Homework:

1. Right now, write down what % of your income you think you gave away this past year by investing in your church family and other kingdom business.
2. Go home and look up the actual figures and see what you really gave away.

After you look up the real numbers of your income and your giving, you might be surprised! What you intend to do and think you've done, is often very different than what you're actually doing.

3. Find yourself on the giving chart of our church family and make plans to grow or increase your giving.

