

## I need to Change: Financial Change LifeGroup

Throughout the entire Bible there are roughly 2,350 verses concerning money. This is roughly twice as many as faith and prayer combined. Fifteen percent of everything Jesus said related to money and possessions. He spoke about money and possessions more than heaven and hell combined. The only subject Jesus spoke of more often is the Kingdom of God. Why? Because the Scriptures make clear there is a fundamental connection between a person's spiritual life and his attitudes and actions concerning money and possessions. Often we divorce the two -- Christ sees them as essentially related to one another.

-Randy Alcorn, The Treasure Principle

Why do you think that the Bible talks so much about money?

How much have you looked into what it has to say about our finances outside of giving?

God wants us to prosper.

Memory Verse:

Let them shout for joy and be glad,  
Who favor my righteous cause;  
And let them say continually,  
"Let the Lord be magnified,  
Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."  
-Psalm 35:27 NKJV

What comes to mind when you hear this statement about prosperity and read this verse?

What would it look like in your life if you took this statement to heart and believed it like a promise?

This morning Kelly said that "The most powerful tool for change that you possess is a positive attitude." Have you found this to be true in your life? Why or why not?

Do you have any attitudes about God's provision that are holding you back?

### 3 Keys to Living in Prosperity

1. Don't spend more than you make. (If you can't afford it, don't buy it.)

The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.  
-Proverbs 21:20 TLB

This is simple to understand, so why is it so hard to live by?

2. Be the Boss.

Be the boss of your money. = BUDGET

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.

-Proverbs 24:3-4 TLB

Do you budget? How's that workin' for ya?

Be the boss of your debt. = DUMP IT!

The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.

-Proverbs 22:7 NIV

How is this true?

If you could eliminate your debt, what could be different about your life?

4 Don't put it off; do it now!

Don't rest until you do.

5 Save yourself like a gazelle escaping from a hunter,  
like a bird fleeing from a net.

-Proverbs 6:4-5 NLT

Do you agree with this type of attitude towards dumping debt?

Be the boss of your Effort. = WORK HARD

The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied.

-Proverbs 13:4 ESV

What does it mean to be diligent? Who is the most diligent person you know?

Be the Boss of your Quality. = EXCELLENCE

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

-Colossians 3:23 ESV

"If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as a Michaelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, 'Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.'"

-Martin Luther King Jr.

How could this attitude change the landscape of the American workforce?

Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit *was* in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm.

-Daniel 6:3 NKJV

Excellence is giving God your best. Your best will vary from day to day. How do we strive for giving God our best while not being overwhelmed with the pursuit of perfection?

### 3. Bring it.

Understand where it comes from anyway.

19 And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 4:19 NLT

Why is it important to know that our provision comes from God? How does that affect our attitude as we worship God through our giving?

Unleash the power of giving.

38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

-Luke 6:38 NKJV

How have you seen this to be true in your Christian walk?

God rewards faithfulness.

10 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.

-Malachi 3:10-11 ESV

What are your initial thoughts about this verse? What does that say about your heart attitude towards money? To God?

What Steps is God calling you to in this area?

Prayer Time.