

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of February 21st, 2021

Sermon Series: Dollars and \$ense

Sermon: The Rhythm of Financial Peace

Speaker: Pastor Beau Jensen

Icebreaker

- Tell us your favorite knock-knock joke!

Conversation Starters and Sermon Review

- Is there anything from last week's sermon that you have questions about? Took a next step in? Or that you would like to dive deeper into?
- What were some of the goals that you set at the beginning of the year? How's it going so far? Why?

I. Stick to the Plan

Have your group read **Hebrews 12:11** and **Genesis 40:29-36 & 49**.

- What you do with your money now can have an impact on your future. How does this make you want to change the way you're handling your finances now?
- How can prepping during the good times save you during the times of famine?
- How are you willing to forfeit instant gratification in order to forge a new future?
- Once you begin a rhythm, what "fit test" could you implement to track your progress?

II. Fight Impulses

Have your group read **1 Timothy 6:10-11** and **Philippians 4:12-13**.

“I believe one way we can fight impulses of discontentment is by assigning the correct value to people rather than things.” - Pastor Beau Jensen

- How do your expenses show where your values lie? How can we shift from a material focus to a relational focus?
- How hard is it for you to resist impulse purchases? Why?
- What role does your faith play in your impulse fighting? Do you pray against impulses or after you give in to them?
- Do your purchases honor or dishonor God? Is His money going to the right place? Why?

The Personal Covenant for Pastor Chris Hodges Family

- We recognize that all we have comes from the hand of a gracious God. God owns everything we have, so we always check with Him first.
- We will give the full tithe to the church that we worship in and more as the Spirit guides us.
- We will demonstrate discipline with our spending and live by the 10-10-80 principle.
- We will avoid debt so that His money doesn't go to the wrong place.
- We will make an effort to be generous on every occasion.
- Do you practice any of these statements in your household now? Are there any values that you would add to create your own personal covenant?

III. Keep Training

Have your group read **1 Timothy 4:7-8**.

- How can you train yourself to develop the values of godliness in every way “as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come?”
- Would the excuses that we tell ourselves have merit if we told them to God?

- One day, God will ask you what you did with the resources that He gave you. What can you do to give Him an answer that will delight His heart?

Act On It

Encourage: Life knocks us out of rhythm, but the good news is that it is NEVER too late to get back on track! We serve a God that welcomes us back into a rhythm with Him at any time. Making a plan and sticking to it can eliminate all of the unnecessary stress and anxiety that you've been shouldering and replace it with an abundance of freedom and peace. Discipline isn't easy - It will stretch you, but the results are worth it. No matter where you are, God created you, invested in you - know that you have His backing.

Ask: Ask God to show you the areas of your life that need discipline and to show your next steps. Pray for Him to convict you and give you discernment when you have impulses. Ask for help erecting guardrails against complacency so that you can start building a routine that will help you get into a good financial rhythm.

Challenge: If you haven't already, create a plan! And if you need help sticking to your plan, take advantage of these budgeting resources:

Ramsey Every Dollar – Connects to your local bank account. You can create a budget by using this resource, stay on budget by simply connecting your local bank and tracking your spending

Envel.ai – A bank that allows you to organize your money into envelopes and link your debit card to each envelope. The technology optimizes your cash to help you stay on budget. In addition, you can have up to 99 various envelopes.

The Book Profit First by Mike Michalowicz – Gives you a plan and formula to eliminate debt and create financial plan and peace for your business.

If you've already created a plan and you're sticking to your plan, find someone that you can come alongside that's struggling with their plan and help them out.

Prayer Request and Prayer

Lord, thank you for the reminder that it's never too late to create and stick with a plan that honors You. Thank you for equipping us with wisdom and perseverance to deal with distractions and anything else that gets in the way of living for You. We pray for a spirit of discipline and self-control so we can fight against impulses. We pray that we honor You in all that we do and that our values reflect our relationship with You. Let the way that we steward our finances and all that You give us be a testimony to others of your unconditional goodness. Guide us as we take our next steps into getting into a good rhythm with You. We thank you, and we praise you. Amen.

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of February 14th, 2021

Sermon Series: Dollars and \$ense

Sermon: Let's Say the Same Things

Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette

Icebreaker

- What's your favorite "snowy" activity? Why?

Conversation Starters and Sermon Review

- Is there anything from last week's sermon that you have questions about? Took a next step in? Or that you would like to dive deeper into?
- How often do you think about money? In what context does it usually come up?

I. Understanding Biblical Terms

Have your group read **1 Timothy 6:17-18** and **Phillipians 1:27**.

Stewardship – We are NOT OWNERS of anything! We don't take anything with us when we die, so therefore we are not owners. Everything we have, God has given us for now. All that we DON'T have, He hasn't given us. Stewardship is our responsibility to be MANAGERS of what God allows us to have. We manage what is His in a way that glorifies Him, blesses others, and provides for our needs.

Generous – Generosity is the posture of the heart that seeks to give, serve, bless, and do for others more than what's normal. It is a true reflection of the nature and character of God.

Tithe – The tithe is an ancient word that simply means "The First Tenth." So, the tithe is the FIRST 10th of your income, brought to your church as a gift of worship unto God.

Offering – The offering is understood to be any gift or financial blessing you would give or bring that is BEYOND your regular tithes. This is where

charitable giving comes in, or giving to things like water filters, One Day to Feed the World, YAI Paks, Hope Pregnancy Center, or United Way.

- How are you currently stewarding what you have? How are you sharing it with others? Does it glorify God?
- Do you see yourself as a manager of the things that you have, or do you see yourself as an owner of your stuff? Are there things that God wants you to manage differently once you acknowledge that they are really His?
- What ways have you noticed God has called you to give offerings? Have you struggled with listening to God to give offerings?

II. Biblical View of Stewardship

Have people in your group take turns reading the following scriptures:

Psalm 24:1; Matthew 6:19-24; Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:6-12; and 2

Corinthians 9:11

- Where does your heart lie? Do you worship the Lamb of God or the golden calf?
- Are you managed by your money, or do you manage your money? Do your finances overwhelm you, or do you have a good management plan? Please share.
- Where else do you feel challenged in your stewardship (i.e. time, forgiveness, serving others, etc.)?

III. The Practices of Generosity

Read the following passages: **1 Chronicles 29:10-17 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-**

“Filters” to use when acting out your generosity:

1. The Relationship Filter

Who am I committed to relationally? Better, who am I in COVENANT relationship with? We should covenant with God, with our Spouse, our family, and we should COVENANT to His Church! We give because we know them, because we care, because we are in covenant!

2. The Difference Filter

Will it make an ETERNAL difference? Not all charity is the same. Not all giving is the same because not all generosity makes an eternal difference. Does YOUR giving and generosity make a difference?

3. The God Filter

We can grow in this area! When it comes to tithing, God has spoken. We are to bring the tithe into the storehouse, into the Church. But when it comes to giving beyond that, we need to ask the question - Is God speaking to me? Are you able to hear the direction and the leading of the Lord when it comes to a generous life?

- Which filter do you think that you use the most? Which filter is the hardest for you to use? Why?
- What can you do with your offerings to make an eternal difference?
- What changes do you think you would see in yourself if you truly went “all in” with God? What impact would you see in yourself, relationships, priorities, and the Church?

Act On It

Encourage: No matter where your heart is at today, you can change and return to the way that God has called you to be generous. Start where you need to, and begin to lean into and trust God with ALL of you - Your finances, your time, and your talents. Find freedom in trusting that God owns it all, and He gives to us as we need. He gives to us out of His own abundance, and we get to give to others in the same way.

Ask: Ask God to show you the areas of your life that you have kept Him from being Lord over and submit them. Ask him to give you opportunities to increase your generosity all over, not just in your finances, but with your time, your skills, all that He has given you. Pray for wisdom, perseverance, and strength as you stretch yourself into a new area of stewardship.

Challenge: Think of a time where someone else's generosity blessed you and work to recreate that feeling for someone else. Whether it's tithing for the first time or being more generous by serving others, it's not too late to start! As a small group, you all can take advantage of the free Ramsey+ membership by emailing smallgroups@lifepointchurch.tv. Take Pastor Mike up on the 90-Day Tithing Challenge if you're ready to start tithing. You can also come up with random acts of kindness that you can do, like buying the meal for the person behind you in the drive-thru or tipping your server VERY well.

Prayer Request and Prayer

Lord, thank you for all that you do for us. We acknowledge that everything we have is from you and belongs to you. Help us to find contentment with the things that we have now and in knowing that you have given us all that we need. Help us to be good stewards of all that you give us, managing it all for your purpose. Lead us in making new, healthy decisions, based on our heart and love for you. Lead us to a place where we can freely and selflessly reach out and give to others as you have given to us. We love you, and we are blessed for all of the opportunities that we get to show our faith in you. Amen.

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of February 7th, 2021

Sermon Series: Dollars and \$ense

Sermon: Get Your Financial House in Order

Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette

Icebreaker

- If all of your clothes had to be one color forever, what color would it be and why?

Conversation Starters and Sermon Review

- If you missed it, you can review our 2020 LifePoint Church annual report at www.lifepointchurch.tv/report. Wow, look at what all God allowed us to do during a pandemic year! What's the most exciting thing that you learned from the report?
- What was your family's view on money when you were growing up? How did that view shape your current view on finances?

I. Get on a Plan!

Have your group read **Proverbs 22:7** and **Proverbs 29:18**

- Does the way that you're currently handling your finances accurately reflect your relationship with God? Why or why not?

"You don't TIP to the Lord, you TITHE to the Lord!"

--Pastor [Mike Burnette](#)

- Do you see yourself as being enslaved to debt? What steps are you taking to find freedom in your finances?

II. Dump Debt!

Read **Proverbs 22:7** with your small group

- What is something that you really want to do, but debt is holding you back from doing it?
- How would you enjoy life's pleasures (vacations, family trips, holidays, etc.), if you didn't have to worry about paying off debt?
- What financial burdens can you eliminate right now, to free up money to pay off debt (i.e., streaming services, subscriptions, gym memberships)?

III. Be a Super Saver!

Read the following passages: **Proverbs 21:20** and **Malachi 3:10**

- What is one thing that you could sacrifice now if it meant that you could have peace later?
- What is the difference between a "need" and a "want"? Identify the "wants" and "needs" in your life.
- If you are not a good steward of your finances, what is one thing you can do right now, to become wiser about better managing your money?

IV. Give Your Money Away

Read the following passages: Exodus 35 & 36, Psalm 37:21, Psalm 37:25-27, Proverbs 3:27, Malachi 3:6-12, Matthew 25:14-30, 2 Corinthians 8:1-15, and 2 Corinthians 9:6-12, and Philippians 4:10-20.

- What is your current plan for your future? How can you tweak it starting now?
- If you are currently giving, what next step can you take now, to increase your generosity?
- Describe a time when you were blessed by someone's generosity. What impact did their actions have in your life?

Act On It

Encourage: If you're being held back by financial debt, there IS a way out! It was never in God's plan for us to be bound by money. Financial peace is available for you. And our church is here to equip you, walk with you, support you, and then celebrate with you on the other side of freedom!

Ask: Ask God to embolden you to trust Him with your finances. Ask God to liberate our hearts to liberate our hands to give more freely as God is calling us to.

Challenge: As a small group, you get the chance to go on the journey to financial freedom together! You can email smallgroups@lifepointchurch.tv to get started with a free Ramsey+ membership for your small group. Identify one unnecessary expense in your life right now, eliminate it, and divert that payment towards a debt payment, no matter how small.

Prayer Request and Prayer

Lord, we are thankful that financial bondage was never in your plan for our lives. Help me see the ways that I am in slavery and how to live my life in the freedom you have set before me. Father, give us the courage to honor you in all our spending, the way that we tithe, and the generosity of our giving. Thank you for providing us the tools to be a super saver and to bless others. Amen.