

**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 9:6-7**

“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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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.