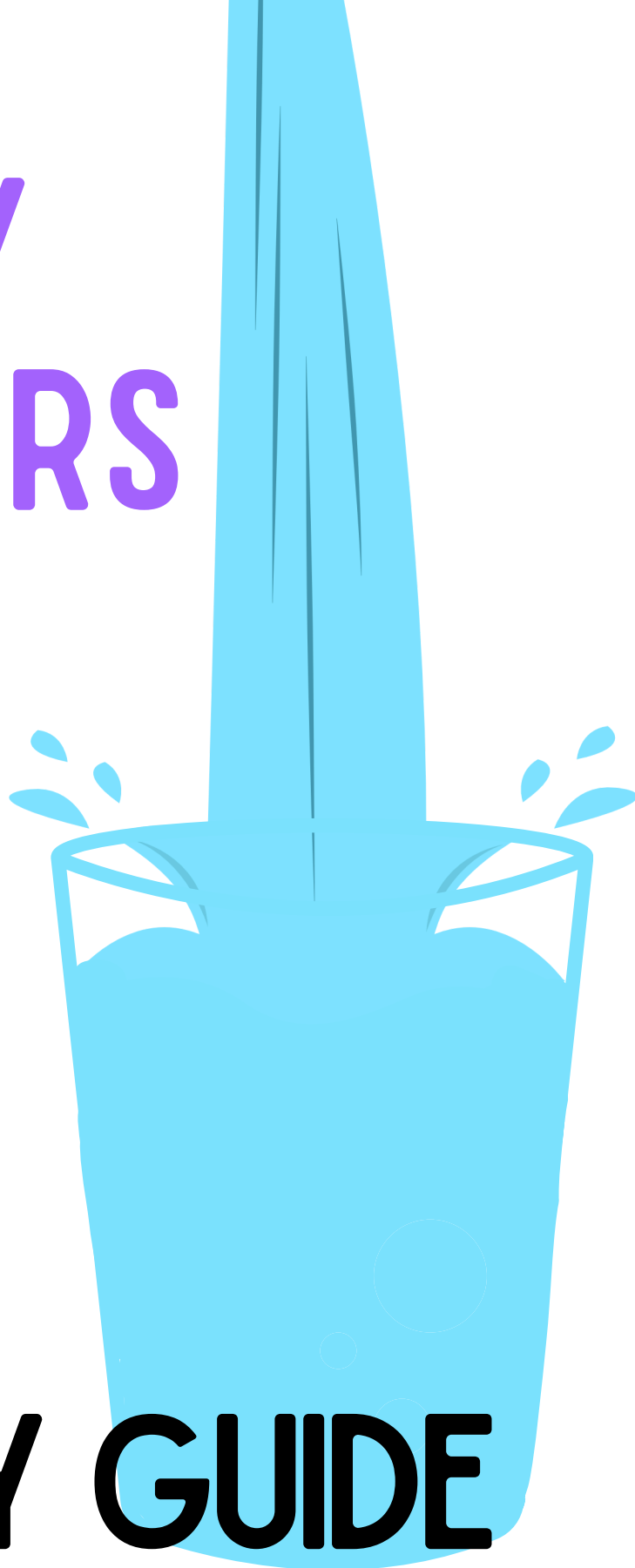


MONEY MATTERS



STUDY GUIDE



FOR THE MAY 2024 SERMON SERIES AT CCF LOWELL

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INTRODUCTION

WHY THIS SERIES?

AS YOUR PASTORS, WE EARNESTLY SEEK GOD FOR MESSAGE SERIES THAT WILL BENEFIT OUR CHURCH FAMILY BOTH SPIRITUALLY AND PRACTICALLY. IN A TIME OF PRAYER, THE LORD IMPRESSED ON US TO DEVELOP THIS 4-WEEK SERIES ON MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF HELPING PEOPLE BUILD A BIBLICAL FINANCIAL FOUNDATION. THIS SERIES CONTAINS BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE MATTERS CONCERNING MONEY AND IS RICH WITH APPLICATION FOR OUR EVERYDAY LIVES. WE PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL USE IT TO BLESS YOU NOW AND IN THE FUTURE AS YOU COME BACK TO IT OVER AND OVER WHEN YOU NEED HELPFUL REMINDERS OR ADVICE CONCERNING YOUR FINANCES.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

THIS GUIDE IS MEANT TO CHALLENGE YOU TO REVIEW AND REFLECT ON THE 4 SERMONS IN THE "MONEY MATTERS" SERIES. YOU WILL STUDY SOME SCRIPTURES, READ SOME SERMON QUOTES, ANSWER REFLECTION QUESTIONS, AND PRAY FOR GODLY WISDOM AND APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE MOVING FORWARD.

WE HOPE YOU COMPLETE THIS STUDY GUIDE WITH HONESTY AND TRANSPARENCY BEFORE GOD ALONE SO THAT YOU CAN TRULY BENEFIT FROM THE PRINCIPLES OUTLINED HERE.

PART 1: THE TREASURE PRINCIPLE

READ MATTHEW 13:44.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, NOT MONEY, IS THE REAL TREASURE. THE MAN IN THIS PARABLE SOLD EVERYTHING HE HAD SO THAT HE CAN BUY THE FIELD WHERE THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (NOT MORE MONEY) IS HIDDEN.

SERMON QUOTE: "JESUS GAVE UP EVERYTHING TO SAVE US, SO WE MUST BE WILLING TO GIVE UP EVERYTHING TO FOLLOW CHRIST."

Q: WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN IN THIS LIFE THROUGH MONEY?

Q: WHAT GETS IN THE WAY WHEN YOU DECIDE TO GIVE UP EARTHLY PLEASURES TO FOLLOW CHRIST?

READ MATTHEW 6:19-21.

APOSTLE NAJEM CALLED MATTHEW 6:20 THE GREATEST INVESTMENT ADVICE WE COULD EVER GET. *WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THAT?*

Q: HOW HAVE YOU STORED UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN?

PART 2: THE MONEY CONNECTION

READ PROVERBS 3:9

THE KEY TO MONEY IS TO MANAGE IT OBEDIENTLY, NURTURE IT ENDLESSLY, AND TO YIELD TO GOD'S WILL.

SERMON QUOTE: "HOW WE HANDLE OUR FINANCES REVEALS A LOT ABOUT OUR PRIORITIES AND VALUES."

Q: WHAT HAVE BEEN YOUR PRIORITIES THUS FAR IN YOUR LIFE?

READ LEVITICUS 27:30 AND MALACHI 3:8-10

Q: IF TITHING IS A BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE, WHY DOESN'T EVERY CHRISTIAN TITHE?

LET'S DO SOME DEEP REFLECTION ON THE DIVINE ORDER APOSTLE SHARED:

- *GOD*
- *HIS KINGDOM*
- *YOURSELF*
- *YOUR FAMILY*
- *YOUR CHURCH*
- *YOUR CAREER*

Q: WHAT CAN MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO PRIORITIZE AND FOLLOW "THE DIVINE ORDER" WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR FINANCES?

PART 3: WEALTH THAT MATTERS

READ LUKE 8:14

GOD IS NOT AGAINST PLEASURE; HIS PRESENCE IS FULL OF JOY AND PLEASURES EVERMORE! THE WARNING HERE IS TO WATCH OUT THAT THE PURSUIT OF PLEASURE DOES NOT CHOKe THE LIFE OUT OF US AND COST US MORE THAN JUST MONEY.

SERMON QUOTE: "GOOD WEALTH IS GOOD HEALTH."

Q: WHAT DOES THE ABOVE QUOTE MEAN TO YOU?

READ PROVERBS 11:24

Q: HOW DO YOU FIND WEALTH IN GIVING TO OTHERS?

Q: WHAT RELATIONSHIPS HAVE YOU INVESTED IN THAT BUILD TRUE WEALTH?

SERMON QUOTE: "TRUE WEALTH IS FOUND IN LIVING A LIFE ALIGNED WITH GOD'S PURPOSES."

Q: HOW ARE YOU OR HOW ARE YOU NOT LIVING ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE?

PART 4: BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ABOUT MONEY

IN THIS FINAL MESSAGE OF THE SERIES, WE OUTLINED 9 BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ABOUT MONEY:

1. YOUR MONEY IS NOT YOURS
2. KNOW WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES
3. MANAGE YOUR MONEY THROUGH A BUDGET
4. GIVE THE TITHE TO THE LORD
5. CULTIVATE A GENEROUS SPIRIT
6. SAVE FOR THE FUTURE
7. BE CONTENT
8. ENJOY YOUR HARD EARNED MONEY
9. BE PATIENT; MONEY ACCUMULATES OVER TIME

Q: WHICH OF THESE PRINCIPLES DO YOU STRUGGLE WITH THE MOST, AND WHAT CHANGES DO YOU HOPE TO MAKE GOING FORWARD?

THE PRINCIPLE OF STEWARDSHIP:

READ MATTHEW 25:14-30

HOW DO YOU GAIN WEALTH?

TAKE PROPER CARE OF WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE!

BUDGET WORKSHEET

WE HOPE YOU WILL COMPLETE THIS EXERCISE WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL HELP YOU BUILD A GODLY FINANCIAL FOUNDATION

MONTHLY INCOME	
HINT: (MULTIPLY YOUR WEEKLY INCOME BY 52 THEN DIVIDE BY 12).	
MONTHLY EXPENSES	
TITHE / OFFERING	
HOUSING	
FOOD	
UTILITIES	
TRANSPORTATION / AUTO	
MEDICAL	
CLOTHING	
EDUCATION	
SAVINGS DEPOSIT	
DISCRETIONARY SPENDING	
<p style="text-align: right;">TOTAL</p> <p>IF YOUR MONTHLY EXPENSES ARE GREATER THAN YOUR MONTHLY INCOME, IT IS TIME TO MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS.</p>	

NEED HELP WITH YOUR BUDGET?
 SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH APOSTLE!
 EMAIL OFFICE@CCFLOWELL.ORG