

Family Finances

We need a budget

Financial bondage

Financial sloppiness.

Steward.

1 Corinthians 4:2, It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Let's consider Jesus' financial lesson in **Luke 12:15-48**.

The Lord expects us to do business for him. (**Luke 19:12-27**)

Modern changes

1. Easy Credit

2. Hand outs

People no longer think, "can I afford that", but rather think, "Can I afford to make the payments".

Our society is begging us to get into this situation.

When I create a budget, I am telling my money what to do. When I live without a budget, my money is telling me what to do.

Types of spending.

1. Needs.

This category might be a lot smaller than you think.

1 Timothy 6:8, And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

Basic requirements. (food, clothes, shelter, medical needs).

Good news is that God has promised to provide for these. (**Matthew 6:24-34**)

2. Wants

Is it wrong? Too much. Too soon.

1 Timothy 6:6, But godliness with contentment is great gain.

3. Desires

Can be lived without.

	<u>Needs</u>	<u>Wants</u>	<u>Desires</u>
Clothes	Goodwill/Walmart	The mall	Designer

Food	Bologna/Hamburger	Pork Chops	Prime Rib
Car	Beater	Nice Used	Brand New

Know the difference and pass it on to your children.

Proper categories.

1. God's Part

A. The Bible teaches the concept of tithing.

1. The first part of our finances belong to God. (first fruits, first born)

1 Corinthians 16:2, Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him...

2. The giving of 10% has always been a God ordained practice.

Abraham (Genesis 14:19-20)

Jacob (Genesis 28:22)

Under the Law (Leviticus 27:30)

B. God takes it seriously

Malachi 3:8-11, Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. ⁹ Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. ¹⁰ Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. ¹¹ And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.

2. The government's part

A. We may not like this, but it is a reality.

1. Jesus never allowed for not paying taxes, in fact he taught they should be paid. (**Matthew 17:24-27, Romans 13:1-8**)

2. Your employer might be taking it out for you and you don't have to think about it.

a. Put the proper number of dependents on your W-4

b. Don't let them use your extra money all year.

3. If you are self employed or for some reason your employer is not taking it out, you have to do this yourself and should do it every pay check.

2024 tax brackets

1. 10% for the first \$11,600 of income

2. 12% for income between \$11,601 to \$47,150

3. 22% for income between \$47,151 to \$120,000
4. 24% for income between \$120,001 to \$290,600
5. 32% for income between \$290,601 to \$452,400
6. 35% for income between \$452,401 to \$613,350
7. 37% for income above \$613,350

c. Social security tax is 12.4%

B. Jesus validated the payment of both these categories in one verse.

Matthew 22:21, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

3. Your Part (net spendable income)

A. This is the amount from which you meet your family's needs.

1 Timothy 5:8, But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

B. This is the amount from which you pay your debts with the goal of eliminating all debt.

Psalms 37:21, The wicked borrows, and pays not again: but the righteous shows mercy, and gives.

C. Once your budget gets spending under control and your debts get paid off, you will find yourself with surplus to use for God's kingdom and the benefit of others.

2 Corinthians 8:14, ... that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want...

D. Additional surplus needs to be saved for emergencies, big purchases, and investing.