

LEGACY: BE THE DIFFERENCE IN YOUR FINANCES

Part3 of LEGACY. Joshua 24:14.

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. January 21, 2024.

INTRODUCTION

'Tis this season to worry.

What this teaching is NOT.

- Not a guilt trip.
- Not manipulation.
- Not a financial management seminar (see the book table).

Big Question: Why Is Money Management So Challenging?

- We avoid money management out of fear.
- We avoid money management out of guilt.
- Good news: God has provided a way out of fear and guilt.

THE GREATEST FINANCIAL RESOURCE EVER

God is faithful.

- General Joshua gave a speech reviewing Israel's history.

Joshua 24:14 (ESV) "And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in your hearts and souls, all of you, that not one word has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you.

- The foundation of financial stability is: Our God is faithful.
- The apostle Paul explained God's faithfulness:

2 Corinthians 1:18-22 (ESV) As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been Yes and No. 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. 20 For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. 21 And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, 22 and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

- If God was faithful to fulfill all his promises of salvation even at the cost of sending his Son to die for us, he will be faithful to take care of us in everyday life.

TWO WAYS GOD IS FAITHFUL IN OUR FINANCES

1. God is faithful to provide for us.

- I remind myself of God's faithfulness by speaking Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need."
- Jesus taught about God's faithful care for us.

Matthew 6:25-33 (ESV) "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

- Don't be anxious - no need to fear. God takes care of us.

Psalm 119:90 (ESV) He never fails, he is faithful forever.

2. God is faithful to forgive us.

- What does forgiveness have to do with finances?

1 Timothy 6:9-10 (ESV) But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

- Money can become a temptation, a trap, and a destroyer.
- The Lord knows our financial sins and yet he is faithful to forgive.

1 John 1:9 (ESV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- Confession originated in the Greek law courts.
- God is just to forgive because Jesus Christ atoned for our sins on the cross. Our sin-debt is paid in full.
- Don't carry the burden of financial guilt. Confess it and give it to Jesus.

SMALL GROUPS GUIDE

GET STARTED

- What are you doing to shake off the winter blues?

DIVE IN

- Review the study guide. What were Peter's main ideas, insights, or Bible passages related to finances?
- Take a closer look at Joshua 24:14. Discuss how the Lord kept his promises to the children of Israel during the 40-year Exodus and the conquest of the Promised Land. Make application to today.
- What Bible passages do you use to remind yourself that God is faithful? In what situations do these passages bring you welcome confidence that God is taking care of you?
- How does it help you to know that the Lord forgives our financial sins? What practical difference does it make that God is both faithful AND just when he offers us forgiveness? What part does Jesus play in that?
- Be prophetic for a moment: Speak godly, Spirit-filled encouragement about God's faithfulness, his provision, his care, and his love over the group.

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for group members' financial provision and management in 2024.
- Pray for the small group members, your pastors/elders, the Cornerstone family, and our outreach partners. And anything else that comes to mind.