

No Limits with Pastor Delman

Living and Leaving a Legacy of Wealth

2 Kings 4:1-7

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
Managing your money well is no small task. It is easier than ever to find yourself in debt these days, leaving you not just struggling financially in the present, but also struggling with leaving a strong financial legacy. In today's message, we're going to learn from our key text four steps we can take so that we can live and leave a legacy of wealth and avoid financial downfall.	
KEY POINTS	
1. Don't Get Seduced By Symbols Status symbols and images of success don't create wealth. Looking rich and being rich are not the same thing. That's why it's been said that if you don't learn how to manage your money, your money will manage you. And many people are finding themselves stressed out trying to keep up with the Joneses instead of managing their finances in a biblical way. These are traps we need to avoid if we want to live and leave a legacy of wealth.	
2. Plan For Your Death While You Are Living What stands out to me about our key text is that when the woman's husband died, she had no knowledge of the family's financial situation until the creditors showed up. I think that's the greatest tragedy. She spends all of this time married to him, doing life, raising children, presumably thinking everything is okay, and then upon his death, she realizes the family is not protected. Sadly, this isn't an uncommon situation.	
I want to suggest that we avoid these situations by creating a culture in our families, in our relationships, and in our marriages where there is communication and transparency about finances. This way, when, not if, we die, the family is protected. Let's take the taboo out of talking about these things so that your loved ones are not caught off guard or are left financially exposed and unprotected.	

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3. Don't Be Deceived By Financial Scams

When the family in 2 Kings 4 fell on hard times, the prophet advises the woman to take inventory of what was in her house, to go and borrow empty jars from her neighbors, and to start pouring the little oil she has into those jars so that she can sell them, pay off her debts, and live off the rest. What's noteworthy to me is that the prophet asks what she has in her house because he does not want her to become a victim of the many financial scams during a time when she is financially and emotionally vulnerable.

Elisha knows that there are con artists out there who would try to exploit her, so he gives her a plan for wealth creation that's based on an honest business model for generating sustainable income. That is God's way of wealth creation. It's based upon sound ethical business practices that aren't based upon exploitation. And that is the type of wealth creation we need to pursue as we continue to follow Christ.

4. Don't Be Buried In Debt

The family in this text gets in trouble because they become casualties of the credit system. Someone to whom her husband was indebted was going to take her two children as slaves. This story proves that dying in debt is worse than dying broke. When you're broke, you have nothing. When you're in debt, you have less than nothing. And there's nothing worse than having a lot of stuff and still being in financial bondage. We as believers need to pursue financial freedom rather than staying stuck in financial bondage, and if we're going to do that, we must be diligent in getting out of debt and staying out of it.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1.	If you were to die today,	, what kind	l of financial	legacy woul	d you l	leave
	behind for your family?					

- 2. When was a time you put on a front to impress other people when in fact your reality was quite different from the image you were portraying?
- 3. What practical steps can you take this week to get on the path of financial freedom and stability so you can live and leave a legacy of wealth?