

#8: Don't Ever Let Go of Your Grudges

- Quote: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow – “Everyone says that forgiveness is a lovely idea... until he has something to forgive.”
- Matthew 18:32-35 - 32 Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35 This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.

#9: Never Go on a Mission Trip (Tell God His Boundaries)

- Story: Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf – “All this I did for you. What are you doing for me?”

#10: Worship the Almighty Dollar (Don't Give a Buck)

- 1 Timothy 6:10 – For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
 - So much evil has resulted from a love of money
 - For every evil that exists, you will be able to find someone willing to do it for the right amount of money
- How Should We View Money?
 - 1) Be Trusting
 - Trust that God is a good Father and will provide for you
 - Jesus told us not to worry, not even about what we’ll eat or drink or wear... because God takes care of the birds and the flowers, so how could He not take care of us (Matthew 6:25-33)?
 - Paul declared God is able to “supply all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19)
 - Elsewhere (1 Timothy 6:17), Paul commanded that even the rich not trust in their wealth but to trust in God “who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment”
 - 2) Be Faithful
 - Matthew 6:21 – For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
 - Luke 16:13 – No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.
 - And as we are faithful with our money, not serving it but using it to serve God... God will give us “true riches” (Luke 16:11)
 - 3) Be Generous
 - Malachi 3:10-12 – 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the Lord Almighty. 12 “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the Lord Almighty.
 - 4) Be Content
 - Philippians 4:11-13 – 11 ... I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.
 - John the Baptist gave the same advice to his listeners...

- He told everyone: “If you have extra food or clothing... share with those who don’t have enough” (Luke 3:11)
- He told tax collectors: “Don’t use your position to extort extra \$\$ from people, but take only take the taxes you’re required to take and no more” (Luke 3:13)
- He told soldiers: “Be content with your pay... Don’t use your power to blackmail people or extort money from them” (Luke 3:14)
- Hebrews 13:5 – Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

#11: Let _____ Define You

- 1 Timothy 1:18-19 – 18 Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith.
- You are a “new creation in Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- You have been “crucified with Christ”... You no longer live but Jesus lives in you... And now you live by faith in the God who loved you so much He died for you (Galatians 2:20)
- The Enemy wants to get your eyes off of God and onto yourself, your problems, your failures, your past, your whatever, because when your eyes are on yourself, you’re not walking in faith, and when you’re not walking in faith, “it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6)
 - On the otherhand, if you want to live a life that is pleasing to God, “Live by faith and not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7) and trust that “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion” (Philippians 1:6)