

Financial Faithfulness: Message #4 Lifestyle and Giving

1. Joe presented five “high level priorities” that Jesus has for our finances. Read the Scripture he referenced and explain each priority.
 - a. Provide for our own needs. 2 Thess 3:7,8,11,12
 - b. Provide for the needs of our household (relatives) 1 Timothy 5:8
 - c. Provide for the family of God Gal 6:10; 1 Timothy 5:17,18
 - d. Provide for those in need. Ephesians 4:28
 - e. Win friends for the kingdom Luke 16:1-9
2. Which of these 5 priorities do you embrace most easily and why?
3. What are some things that make it hard to define our “needs”?
4. Name some things that you think should be identified as “needs”.
5. Name some things that you think should not be identified as a “needs”?
6. What would you identify as something our culture has inflated to the level of a “need” when in your estimation it should be identified as a “want” or a “luxury”?
7. What is your reaction to this quote from C.S. Lewis’s *Mere Christianity*, “I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare...If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small.”?
8. What steps could you take to be more mindful of how we are employing our financial resources toward the purposes for which Jesus has entrusted them to us?
9. How can we nurture our heart of care and love for the things Jesus cares about?