

Flowing finances 4

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1. ANTIDOTE TO MATERIALISM

- 1.1. Giving is the antidote to materialism.
- 1.2. God looks at our hearts. He is more interested in who we are than what we have.

1 Samuel 16:7 “But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

- 1.3. To understand giving, it is important to understand what God gave to us. He gave us the privilege to become His children.

John 1:12 “But to as many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the right [the authority, the privilege] to become children of God, that is, to those who believe in (adhere to, trust in, and rely on) His name.”

2. BEING ON A MISSION

- 2.1. People on a mission or mandate understand what is enough.

Galatians 6:4-5 “Each of you must examine your own actions. Then you can be proud of your own accomplishments without comparing yourself to others. Assume your own responsibility.”

Pssalm 16:6 “The [boundary] lines [of the land] have fallen for me in pleasant places; Indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me.”

- 2.2. People on a mission are not passive.

James 2:15-18 “If a brother or sister is without [adequate] clothing and lacks [enough] food for each day, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace [with my blessing], [keep] warm and feed yourselves,” but he does not give them the necessities for the body, what good does that do? So too, faith, if it does not have works [to back it up], is by itself dead [inoperative and ineffective]. But someone may say, “You [claim to] have faith and I have [good] works; show me your [alleged] faith without the works [if you can], and I will show you my faith by my works [that is, by what I do].”

- 2.3. People on a mission know where their storehouse is.

Malachi 3:10 “Bring all the tithes (the tenth) into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you [so great] a blessing until there is no more room to receive it.”

2.4. People on a mission give because of relationship.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 “Now [remember] this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to others] will also reap generously [and be blessed]. Let each one give [thoughtfully and with purpose] just as he has decided in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver [and delights in the one whose heart is in his gift]. And God is able to make all grace [every favor and earthly blessing] come in abundance to you, so that you may always [under all circumstances, regardless of the need] have complete sufficiency in everything [being completely self-sufficient in Him], and have an abundance for every good work and act of charity.”

Sermon Discussion Guide

OPEN WITH PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.

1. Do you know when enough will be enough for you personally when it comes to material possessions?
2. Do you believe that God created you with a purpose and that there are good works for you to do?
3. Are you willing to invest you time, money and talents in those good works?