Main Idea: God has promised to provide for faithful stewards.

## I am a Steward

There is a connection between money and happiness, but the connection is NOT "More". Earn, Give, Save, Pay, and Live is the plan. God won't do that for you. You must do it yourself. That makes you the steward or manager of all that God has provided. We're managers of all God has entrusted to us. When we lose sight of our position in light of our money and stuff, we get ourselves in trouble.

## Jesus on Money and Happiness: The connection is "Management".

There is a connection between your money and your happiness, but it is not about "more", it's about **management**.

In Luke 16:13 Jesus said, "If you don't learn how to manage your money, your money will manage you" (paraphrased). When we learn how to manage money (that's stewardship) we become less "devoted" to money and free from financial bondage. God has promised to provide for faithful stewards.

## 4 Laws of Stewardship – 2Corinthians 9

The Law of the Harvest v.6. "Remember this..." Mark it down. Don't be afraid. If you sow sparingly, you will reap sparingly. If you sow generously, you will reap generously. God always returns more than you give. The Law of the Individual v.7. "...what you have decided in your heart to give..." You've got to love the flexibility of God's plan! Take the time to prayerfully consider how much you and your family should give, and then do it. Make it a priority.

The Law of Provision v.8. "...God is able to make all grace abound to you..." God is able to bless you abundantly... The power of this concept revolves around your faith. It removes the "what if..." concerns that so many wrestle with.

The Law of the Purpose vv.9-11. "You will be made rich so that you can be generous on every occasion..." God blesses us financially for His purposes first, our own purpose second. He wants to partner with us. Why would God drain you financially if you're partnering with Him? A generous church assures future blessing.

**Family Night Big idea – Read 2Corinthians 9:1-11.** Teach your children that God has promised to provide. He has promised to meet our needs when we wisely manage the money He has given us.

**Elementary School –** Ask, "What had Paul told the church at Macedonia about the church at Corinth? When we sow sparingly, how do we reap? Why should we give money to God's work?"

**Middle/ High School –** Ask, "How much money is enough money? Does more money make us happy? How should we manage God's money? Why should we give money to God's work?"

Prayer "Father, we want to be wise in the way we manage all that You have given us. Amen."

Baptism Our next Baptism Service is March 17 <sup>th</sup> . Please use the
Communication Card if you are interested or have questions. This week is the last week to plan participation.
Night of Worship
Everyone is invited to come hear our band play a concert on
March 29 <sup>th</sup> . There will be a children's part in the program also. The evening starts at 6pm.
New Series "Follow"
Religion says, "Change and you can join us." Jesus says, "Join us and you will change." Series starts on March 24 <sup>th</sup> ,
Palm Sunday. This is a great opportunity to invite someone who does not attend church, to come experience the difference at GCC.