

TAKE HOME SHEET



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**Series:** The More Things Change  
**Message:** The More Our Priorities Matter  
**Speaker:** Rusty Coram  
**Date:** January 16/17, 2021

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This is a *two-part* Take Home Sheet. The *first section* is for those of us who are searching or uncertain about where they stand with God. The *second section* is for those of us who know we have accepted Jesus as our Savior and Leader.

**PART 1:** For those of us who are exploring faith in Jesus or uncertain where we stand:

Why do you think God cares about how we relate to money? (See Matthew 6:21 in the message notes.)

How have you seen money, or the quest for it, have a negative impact on someone's life?

Philippians 4:19 tells us, "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."

How might believing that God will take care of all your needs change your attitude about money and material things?

**PART 2:** For those who have accepted Jesus as our Savior and Leader:

Since Jesus made it clear that my relationship to money is a direct reflection of my trust and faith in Him...

What does my giving to His church say about me?

What determines the amount that I give to support New Hope (or my home church, if I'm a guest today)?

What percentage of my income do I give to support God's work?

Am I giving a tithe (10% of my income)? If not, am I willing to take God up on His offer in Malachi 3:10?

*"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse... If you do," says the Lord Almighty, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Let me prove it to you!"*

Malachi 3:10 NLT

What commitment will I make today to strengthen my generosity?

An easy way to keep this a priority is by using New Hope's *e-giving options*. Either go to [www.newhope.org/giving](http://www.newhope.org/giving) or text "give" to 703.971.4673 to give instantly and securely.

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**BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:**

NIV – New International Version

NLT – New Living Translation

TLB – The Living Bible

MESSAGE NOTES

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CHANGE

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*Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!*

Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NLT)

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. <sup>42</sup> Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. <sup>43</sup> Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. <sup>44</sup> For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on."

Mark 12:41-44 (NLT)

**Four things that are true about me and my money:**

**1. How I handle my money shows my level of devotion to God.**

*Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.*

Matthew 6:21 (NLT)

**2. My spiritual growth is directly affected by my giving.**

*The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.*

Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB)

**3. God will bless me so I can be a blessing to others.**

*Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.*

Luke 16:10 (NIV)

<sup>24</sup> Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. <sup>25</sup> The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:24-25 (NLT)

**4. I have enough money, right now, to begin being faithful!**

<sup>7</sup> Now I want you to be leaders also in the spirit of cheerful giving...<sup>8</sup> This is one way to prove that your love is real, that it goes beyond mere words.

2 Corinthians 8:7-8 (TLB)