

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)