First Christian Reformed Church
Life Group Spring 2024



TREASURE

Week 4 - Apr. 21, 2024
1 Chronicles 29:10-20

Welcome

We live in a peculiar time and place in human history. The United States is the richest, most prosperous country in the history of the world. Through most of human history, famine and starvation was a major threat to human life. Now, in the United States, we have so much food that obesity is a real threat to our heath.



Which begs the question, what happens when we use God's gifts carelessly? What happens when we use God's gifts in a way that honors him?

We hope to answer those questions and more in the following weeks as we search the scriptures to discover God's will for us as we us his gifts in the following areas:

1. Terrain (God's creation)
2. Tasks (work)
3. Time
4. Treasure
5. Temple (our bodies)
6. Transmission (the gospel)
7. Talents

Join us as we learn how the Lord would have us steward the gifts he's given us!

Preparing for Life Group

1. If you're bringing a new person to the study, we recommend getting them study materials ahead of time so they can feel prepared.
2. Pray that the LORD will open your eyes and heart to receive the lessons he has to teach you in the study.
3. Read the scripture focus for the study.
4. Go through the questions and think about how you might answer them. We've provided space in the study for you to write down your answers if you'd like.

Confession Corner

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 55

Q. What do you understand by "the communion of saints"?

A. First, that believers one and all,
as members of this community,
share in Christ
and in all his treasures and gifts.[1]

Second, that each member
should consider it a duty
to use these gifts
readily and joyfully
for the service and enrichment
of the other members.[2]

1 Rom. 8:32; 1 Cor. 6:17; 12:4-7, 12-13; 1 John 1:3
2 Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:20-27; 13:1-7; Phil. 2:4-8

What We Believe

Stewarding Treasure

1. Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-20. Who is David speaking to? What is David's purpose in the text?

2. According to the text, what belongs to the LORD?

3. From whom do we get everything we have?

4. What was David's response to the LORD for all the things the LORD gave him?

How should we give? God calls us to give...

- Undestanding that all we have comes from his grace (2 Cor. 8:1-2, 6-7; 9:9-11)
- In faith (2 Cor. 9:7; Phil. 4:19)
- Purposefully (2 Cor. 9:7)
- Regularly - "on the first day of the week" (1 Cor. 16:2)
- Personally - "Each of you should" (1 Cor. 16:2)
- Systematically "set aside...and save" (1 Cor. 16:2)
- Proportionally " they gave according to their means" (2 Cor. 8:3)

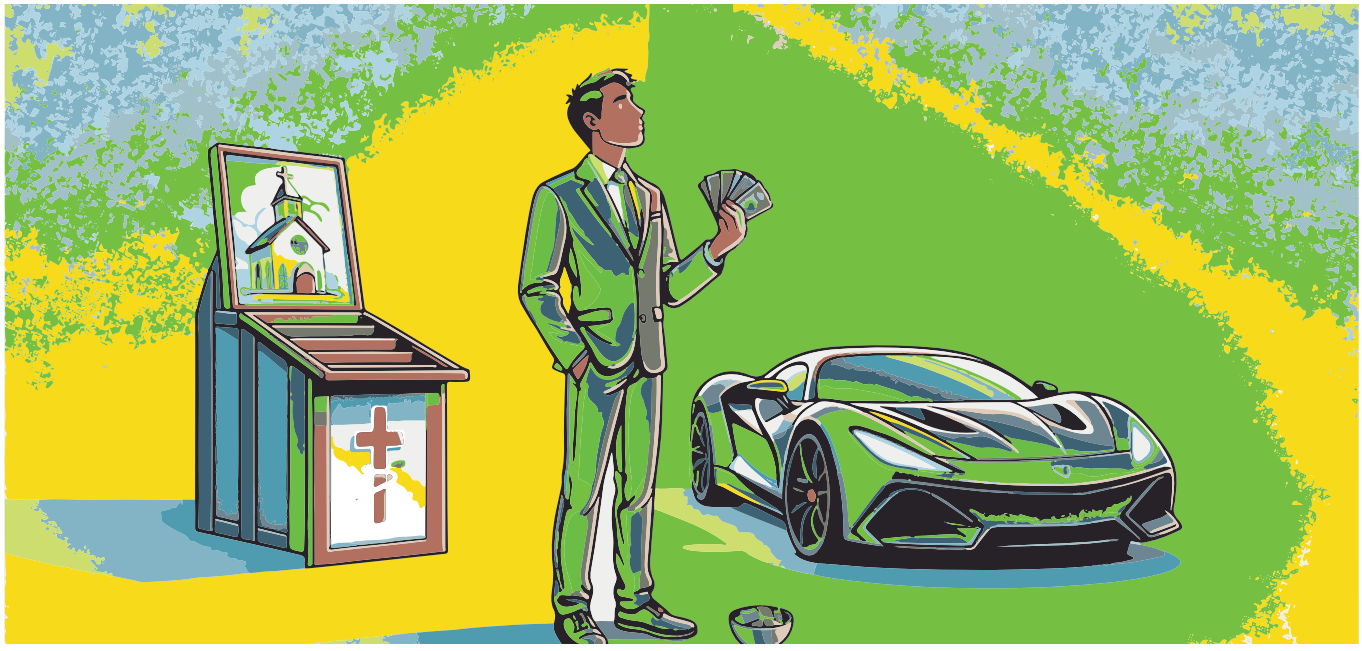
God Speaks to Us

Cross References

1 Ch 29:10 - Lk 1:68
1 Ch 29:11 - Re 5:13
1 Ch 29:12 - Ro 11:36
1 Ch 29:13 - Ps 69:30
1 Ch 29:14 - Ps 8:4
1 Ch 29:15 - Le 25:23
1 Ch 29:16 - Js 1:17
1 Ch 29:17 - Pr 11:20
1 Ch 29:18 - 1 Ch 28:9
1 Ch 29:19 - Ps 72:1
1 Ch 29:20 - Ex 4:31

1.What has the Lord given you? Why has the Lord given it to you? What do you believe he wants you to do with it?

2. What are some ways we can improve our spending, investing, and giving skills/behaviors so that they provide for a better future for us, our children, the church, and our nation?



God Speaks to Our Families

1. Read 1 Timothy 5:8. How can we best help family members who are chronically in need of financial assistance? Is it ever appropriate to cut off financial support to a family member? If yes, when? If no, why not?

2. What are the financial challenges facing young people today? What financial responsibilities do parents have toward their young adult children?



"Jesus spoke more about money than he did about sex, heaven, and hell. Money is a big deal to Jesus. There must be something really dangerous about money. He said, "Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God" (Matthew 19:24).

- Dr. John Piper

God Speaks in Worship

1. During corporate worship we take an offering. Is giving an offering to God an act of worship? Why or why not?

2. How are offerings in our church handled? What are the checks and balances we have in place to ensure the church is being a good steward of God's gifts?

Further Reading

The Bible has a lot to say about how we honor God with our wealth. Check out these scriptures to learn more about God's will for our wealth!

- Hebrews 13:5
- 1 Timothy 6:10
- Proverbs 13:11
- Matthew 6:19-24
- Ecclesiastes 5:10
- Proverbs 22:7
- Proverbs 13:22
- 1 Timothy 5:8

The Gospel Call

1. The “prosperity gospel” teaches that those who are obedient to God’s law will be given with material, financial, spiritual and physical blessing by God. If it’s true, then Jesus, who was perfectly obedient, should have been a rich and healthy man. Dr. John Avanzini, a pastor with a program on television, has said Jesus had “a nice house,” “a big house,” “Jesus was handling big money,” and “wore designer clothes.” Is this view of blessing correct? Why or why not?

2. Pastor Kenneth Copeland has said, “...the basic principle of the Christian life is to know that God put our sin, sickness, disease, sorrow, grief, and poverty on Jesus at Calvary.” Is he correct? Why or why not?

