

## What Does The Bible Say About Money?

Almost everyone agrees that the Bible contains great advice about life, from improving your marriage to getting along with your boss at work. But does the Bible really say much about money? Does it really give us advice that we can apply to our own life in today's world?

The Good News is Yes! Absolutely! We believe the Bible is as relevant and helpful today as when it was written, and God has a lot to say about money. *Did you know money is mentioned in the Bible over 800 times?* God must be pretty serious about this subject to talk about it that much.

In fact, Jesus says in Luke 16:11, "So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" It appears from this verse that God uses money as a test of our management and stewardship skills before entrusting us with spiritual things. See more below.

### Money in the Bible

- 1. Proverbs 13:22** "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children" indicating that God wants us to make a difference, financially, in our family tree.
- 2. Proverbs 21:20** "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has." This gives us an idea of how God wants us to save for a rainy day, to set something back for safekeeping.
- 3. Proverbs 22:7** states that "The rich rule over the poor, And the borrower is servant to the lender." Really? The Bible discourages debt? Does God really want me to pay my debts off and avoid debt?
- 4. Luke 14:28** "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it." Does Jesus really want me to save up and pay for the things I buy?
- 5. Matt. 6:24** "You cannot serve both God and money".

If money is this important to God, why are there so few Sunday school classes on this topic? Why don't we see lots of small group studies on "Managing Your Finances" or "Getting Out of Debt"? Why aren't there more sermons in this area?

There are many reasons, but the top reason is that most people don't realize how much of a problem managing money is for the average family. Look at the statistics below:

### Financial Statistics

- 1. Marital Problems** - 37 percent (the highest rate) of marital problems derive from financial situations
- 2. Cash Flow** - 70 percent of all consumers live paycheck to paycheck, meaning they run out of money before the end of the month
- 3. Savings** - The average family would have to use a credit card to pay a \$1,500 unexpected expense (ex: home or car repair).
- 4. Retirement** - Nearly half of all Americans (46%) have less than \$10,000 saved for their retirement.

It is a problem that affects everyone, inside and outside of the church. In fact George Barna says that the fastest growing churches are teaching about marriage, child rearing, finances, and careers. Money is a serious subject, and God is serious about money, which is why we should study closely what he has to tell us.

Finally, there is something to guide us! A study to take God's wisdom about money and help us apply it to our own lives. It is called [Financial Peace University](#).