

# WORTH IT.

## You're Worth It – Message 1

### Announcements

**The Other Side: Getting Through Life's Storms** // Small group hosts, we are asking you to host a group during our 2018 Community Series starting January 13. *The Other Side* is designed to help others overcome adversity and difficulties in life. Check your email from Pastor Danny for details.

### Warm-up

Think of a time when someone gave you an unexpected gift, how did it make you feel? How do you like to give to others?

### Word and Application

Today we will discuss the first message in the new series entitled, "Worth It." We will discuss why we manage our finances God's way. We can experience the true blessing of God in every area of our life, even in finances. God has a better way for us than living paycheck-to-paycheck, or crisis-to-crisis. The journey of learning how to walk in God's wisdom in the area of our finances is not necessarily quick or easy, but *it's worth it*.

**Read Matthew 7:24-27.** How does this verse apply to finances (or any area) of our lives.

When we steward our finances **God's way**, we honor Him. We also manage money God's way because God's worth it and we're worth it. When we managed finances God's way we position ourselves for increase for our family and our future. When we manage our money God's way, we will find ourselves positioned for increase so we can be a blessing to others.

Let's dig deeper and look at timeless financial principles to have a life built on the Rock.

### 7 Timeless Financial Principles

1. Seek biblical *wisdom* and wise *counsel*.

**Read Proverbs 15:22, Proverbs 4:5-7 & Hosea 4:6.**

Fact: 16 of 38 of Jesus' parables deal with stewardship and finances. The Bible is a wealth of wisdom on the topic of money. Why do we tend not to seek wisdom from others or even go to the Bible for help when we are in a financial bind? Do you have someone you can approach and trust for godly counsel? Do you take advantage of the opportunity to gain wisdom from others?

2. Know the condition of your *finances*.

### **Read Proverbs 27:23.**

God is a God of order, not confusion. How is knowing the condition of your finances vital for financial freedom? What does Proverbs say about this? What is a practical first step for you to know your flock?

3. Make a plan and write down *financial goals*.

**Read Habakkuk 2:2, Ecclesiastes 9:11, Ecclesiastes 11:2.**

How can writing down a budget help your financially? What is keeping you from sticking to your budget? What do these verses say practically about how to manage money?

4. Get and stay out of *debt*.

**Read Proverbs 22:7 & Nehemiah 5:4-5.**

Debt lures, tempts, consumes and crushes us. It turns us into slaves. How can debt be considered a spiritual battle? Discuss as a group openly ways to practically get out of debt and gain freedom in this area.

5. Be *accountable* to someone.

**Read Proverbs 13:20.**

Jesus had three He was close to on earth. Who is your accountability partner financially? How can they help you stick to your budget? How can they help you give generously?

6. Pay *tithes* and give *offerings*.

**Read Malachi 3:10-11 & Luke 6:38.**

Keep first things first. Quite simply God is worth our first and our best. We can do more with 90% with His help, than 100% in our own strength. What do these verses say about testing God with money? Is this a difficult principle for you to believe?

7. Live a life of *character, integrity*, and great exploits.

**Read Proverbs 20:7 & Daniel 11:32b.**

God wants to get resources to us and through us. As we show ourselves faithful with little, He will entrust us with more. What is your specific assignment by God for you on this earth? Our ultimate reward in Eternity depends on accomplishing those purposes, storing eternal treasure on the other side, not this side. Never lose sign of the cross as your mission and purpose. How can having financial peace cause you to accelerate in your God given purpose?

## **Prayer**

Thank God for the abundance in your life. Ask God to help us to see being generous according to His purpose and plan. Pray for the courage and wisdom to apply Biblical steps towards financial peace. Pray for specific needs of the group.