

Week 12

XLV. Introduction

A. Homework

B. Budget Principles

1. Budget...just the spending plan for your household
2. Know where you are starting from and where you are going
3. Adjust your spending to meet your income
4. Plan for the (Un)Expected
5. Pay Yourself not somebody else – Debt and Taxes
6. Increase Your spendable income
7. Care for our and our extended family
8. Invest
9. Plan for your protection
10. We need to balance the books in order to verify how we are doing

C. Biblical Principles

1. God's HIGH priorities for our money
 - a. Paying our taxes (Romans 13:1-7)
 - b. Repaying our Debts (Psalm 37:21)
 - c. Providing Food and Covering (1 Timothy 5:8)
 - d. Giving (Luke 6:38)
2. God's MODERATE priorities for our money
 - a. Saving (Proverbs 21:20)
 - b. Planning (Proverbs 16:3)
 - c. Repaying our debt more quickly than we have too (Proverbs 27:1; Ecclesiastes 5:5; Proverbs 22:7)
3. God's LOW priorities for our money – everything else
4. We are Stewards because God owns it all...we own nothing – Psalm 24:1
5. Money in and of itself is morally neutral...it is what we do with it that makes it good or bad – Hebrews 13:5
6. Money is an excellent indicator of our heart...both good and bad – Mt 6:21

7. The believer is to be self-controlled – Titus 2:12
8. Work is a Blessing – Ecclesiastes 5:18-20
9. We are to be content – 1 Timothy 6:8
10. God has provided all things to enjoy – 1 Timothy 6:17
 - a. God is the provider of all good things
 - b. He provides those things abundantly beyond what we can even imagine
 - c. He has provided good things so that we may enjoy them

XLVI. Biblical Principle – God Can Call You Into Account at Any Time

A. Death

1. Have you have heard it said there are only 2 things certain in this life?
What were those 2 things?...Death and Taxes
2. Well I don't know about taxes but I am certain about the death part
3. Scripture says
Hebrews 9:27 “*And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once...*”
4. So unless Christ returns and the rapture happens we are all going to die...
5. And it will most likely not be at a time and in a way that we would have chosen
6. But it will be at the time and in the way of God's choosing
Job 14:5 (NIV) “*Man's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.*”
7. So what happens when our number is up?

B. Judgment

1. The verse continues
Hebrews 9:27 “*And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once **and after this comes judgment,***”
2. Upon our demise or rapture we will all stand before God in judgment
3. At that judgment we will receive either reward or punishment
2 Corinthians 5:10 “*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*”
4. Foundational is the fact that our salvation is based solely upon what Christ has done for us at the cross

5. The fact that we may receive any reward at all is based first and foremost on His sacrifice and the payment for the price of our sin

1 Corinthians 3:11 *“For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”*

6. However as believers we have had the opportunity to build on that foundation

7. How we build will be judged

8. The passage continues

1 Corinthians 3:12-15 *“Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work. If any man’s work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.”*

9. The foundation of our salvation is Jesus Christ

- a. Are we building on that foundation with flammable or non-flammable items?
- b. For the purposes of this class...we will apply this to the area of stewardship and finances
- c. Are we using our money and possessions to build future reward or just to provide firewood for a future bonfire?
- d. Some people will enter the kingdom naked and smoking but it doesn’t have to be that way
- e. If we build by meeting God’s HIGH and MODERATE priorities with our money and have right attitudes, we will be rewarded for how we have used our money and possessions
Matthew 6:4 *“...so that your giving will be in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you”*

C. Any Day

1. At a time of His own choosing God will call us to account for how we have handled what He has provided

Luke 12:20 *“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?’”*

2. The hope of our security and of our lives is not in the abundance of wealth or possessions
3. The hope of our security is in knowing Christ as Lord and Savior and building upon that foundation with gold, silver and precious stones
4. Once again we should be reminded of the fact that we are just Stewards
5. The Master WILL return
6. When He does, are you ready with an accounting of what He has given you?

XLVII. Budget Principle – Plan for your demise

A. Who gets our stuff?

1. When we die, just like we have seen with Job's and Solomon's observations, we don't get to take anything with us when we go (Job 1:21; Ecclesiastes 4:8)
2. Since that is the case, ultimately somebody else is going to end up with all of the stuff that we have accumulated throughout our lives
3. Even if we do nothing, someone is going to get your stuff
4. With a little preplanning for our (un)timely demise you can prepare to transfer your assets in an orderly way to provide the maximum *benefit* for those you leave behind
5. You can also make thoughtful choices about who looks after your children and spouses if you have them
6. Once again...it is wise to plan

B. Things to consider

1. Who do we want to have our stuff?
 - a. Spouse
 - b. Kids
 - c. Charities
 - d. Others
 - e. The State?
 - f. We should exercise wisdom
 - g. Ron Blue in *Splitting Heirs* has 3 questions
 - i. What is the worst thing that can happen if I transfer wealth to ____?
 - ii. How serious is it?

- iii. How likely is it to occur?
 2. How much do we want to give them?
 - a. Care for your spouse
 - b. For your kids...Love them equally but treat them uniquely
 - c. For charities...where do you get the most bang for your buck?
 - d. Repeat the previous three questions for each of these possibilities
 3. When do we want them to have it?
 - a. Now, a bit at a time, while you can see it being put to use?
 - b. After you are gone in one big lump or a few smaller lumps
 - c. A combination of the two?
 - d. Again the 3 questions
 4. What do we want them to have?
 - a. Need to ID your assets...remember your Net Worth Calculation sheet
 - b. Need to make sure there are beneficiary designations on items that require them
 - c. Title your stuff so it makes the transfer easier by having it a trust or jointly or to the person that will ultimately have it
 - d. Business succession...who is doing what
- C. Communication
1. This is something that we should talk about with our spouses but also with those who will be receiving our stuff so that they are prepared and know what to expect
 2. Documents to help do this
 - a. Letter to the spouse
 - b. Wills
 - c. Trusts
 - d. Powers of Attorney (Durable and Health Care)
 - e. Health Care Directives
- D. Summary
1. We are all going to die
 2. We should make some plans for that eventuality
 3. The goal here is not to exercise control from the grave

4. It is to provide the most benefit to those we leave behind
5. It is to make the transition through an already hard time the much less difficult

XLVIII. The Homework

A. Memory Verses

1. Hebrews 9:27 *“And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,”*
2. 1 Timothy 6:17 *“Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.”*
3. 1 Timothy 6:8 *“If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.”*
4. Acts 20:35b *“..He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*
5. 1 Timothy 5:8 *“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”*
6. Colossians 3:23 *“Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men”*
7. Psalm 37:21 *“The wicked borrows and does not pay back, But the righteous is gracious and gives.”*
8. Proverbs 21:20 *“There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man swallows it up.”*
9. Titus 2:12 *“...instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,”*
10. Matthew 6:21 *“for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*
11. Hebrews 13:5 *“Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,’”*
12. Psalm 24:1 *“The earth is the LORD’S, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it.”*

B. Question and Answer Time

References

1. Unless otherwise indicated all scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Bible (NASB), 1995
2. **Ron Blue**, *Splitting Heirs: Giving Your Money and Things to Your Children Without Ruining Their Lives* (Chicago, IL: Northfield, 2004)