



A Guide to Wise Living

About the Series: Life's a maze with many challenges, distractions, and obstacles, and sometimes we take a wrong turn or make foolish choices. The Book of Proverbs gives us practical ways to live wisely so as not to have so many regrets in life and helps us live in such a way that we fully enjoy our lives as God intended.

Part 3

Show Me the Money!

Proverbs 10:4, 11:4, 21:5, 22:9, 23:4-5, 28:6, 30:8-10 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

DISCUSS

Discuss the following 4 biblical principles on how to deal with money as taught in the book of Proverbs.

God desires you to earn money through hard work, not through dishonest schemes (Proverbs 10:4, 14:23)

- How important is money to you?
- How does God intend you to get money?
- What does working hard mean to you?
- How can you encourage or train your family members, especially children, to be hard workers?
- Why is it not worth earning quick money through dishonest ways (Proverbs 15:27)?

Godly stewards plan ahead, save, remain debt-free, and live within their means (Proverbs 4:26)

- How do you plan ahead or teach someone how to handle his/her finances?
- What are the biblical concepts that Proverbs 21:5 teach us?
- Is it wrong to say that "I will live by faith and just trust the Lord to provide?" Why or why not?
- What's the difference between a wise and a foolish man in Proverbs 21:20?
- Share how you try your best to live within your means and avoid incurring debts.

Since everything belongs to God, we can joyfully give and be blessed (Proverbs 10:22)

- How should you look at everything you have in this world?
- How do you feel that it is actually the Lord who decides how much each person gets? How does Proverbs 19:21 guide us on this matter?
- Why does both greed and a stingy attitude not recognize the truth that everything belongs to God?
- Why is it such a blessing to be able to share your blessings to others?

Pursue the spiritual things that money cannot buy, which have eternal values

- Read Proverbs 15:17, 22:1, 28:6, 19:23, 11:4. Why can't money buy happiness, character, contentment, and salvation?
- Why is it tough for wealthy people to come to the understanding that money does not buy salvation and eternal life?
- Why is the love of money a root of all kinds of evil?
- What are the priceless things that cannot be bought with money that you should pursue?

REFLECT

Proverbs 30:8-10 serves as our prayer to remind us how we are to view money and to pursue wealth:

*Remove falsehood and lies far from me;
Give me neither poverty nor riches—
Feed me with the food allotted to me;
Lest I be full and deny You,
And say, "Who is the Lord?"
Or lest I be poor and steal,
And profane the name of my God.
Do not malign a servant to his master,
Lest he curse you, and you be found guilty.*

What is your perspective on money? Did you ever think that perhaps God blessed you with monetary wealth, not so you can keep it, but for you to bless others with it?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, I recognize that money is very important for my daily needs and even as I plan for my future, but please help me to have the right biblical perspective on money and wealth in order to live wisely. May I not forget You, Lord, and please keep me from bringing shame to Your name as I handle my resources. In Jesus' name. Amen.