

TALK IT OVER

Generosity Challenge:
Take Your Giving to the Next Level

BOTTOM LINE

How you think about money will determine what you do with money.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What was the first paying job you ever had? What did you like most/least about it?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCE

- The Daily:
newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Money Talks](#) by Andy Stanley
(36:21 min.)

VERSES AND QUOTES

Read Matthew 25:14-30 to refresh the parable Jesus told.

"So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
Matthew 25:28-30 NIV

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Matthew 6:24 NIV

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.
1 Timothy 6:17-18 NIV

"You can't help more people if you don't have more money. That's why God's people must be financially committed to investing in what God is doing through the local church."

"If you don't believe in the local church and don't give to the local church, be prepared for the darkness that will take over when the light of the church goes out in your community."

"You are not responsible for what you have; you ARE responsible for what you do with what you have."
– Quotes from Brandon Conner

TALK IT OVER

We don't have a money problem; we have a giving problem. Explain and discuss. Pastors get criticized when they talk about money in the church. How might someone excuse their criticism? What is a scarcity mentality? Does it ever affect your generosity? What is an abundance mentality? Why should it be the legitimate mindset of a Jesus follower? What Scriptures or experiences affirm that? When you struggle with giving generously, what is the most frequent reason? The money in my possession is not MINE to enjoy; it is HIS to invest. How does that statement land in you? The critical question is not "How much do I give?" The critical question is "Am I handling God's money well?" How would you answer that question today? How would you handle it if you knew that tomorrow was the day the Master would return to check on His money? Any changes needed?

ACTION STEP

I will honestly accept my role as a servant and steward and invest accordingly, starting now. _____