



Slow Your Roll The Master Key

#npslowyourroll

Week 3

3 of 4

September 22, 2019

Bottom Line: “If standard of living is your number one objective, quality of life almost never improves. But if quality of life is your number one objective, standard of living invariably improves.” – Zig Ziglar

Icebreaker: What's the first big item you purchased on your own? How long did the satisfaction last? What was the first item for which you went into debt? What did you learn from that experience?

Key Verse: *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*

In order to live the satisfying life for which we have been created, there must be a sustainable pace financially. When we run at an unsustainable pace, we are often driven by the fear of insignificance. That fear has the potential to draw us away from what is truly significant. There is a relationship between you and your ability to follow Christ and your willingness to get your financial house in order. It really has very little to do with giving and a lot to do with slowing your roll.

Jesus says there is a big difference between our standard living and quality of life. We can either raise our standard of living with debt or our quality of life with discipline. Embracing quality of life over standard of living means embracing the slow roll. It may lower your standard of living financially for a while, but eventually you will want to choose quality of life. Otherwise, you will have regrets and feel stuck. More than half of Americans are currently spending more than they earn. We have no margin. We become slaves to our creditors. We multiply stress and frustration and feel distant from God.

Jesus predicted this situation. He said no man can serve two masters. It is impossible to serve or prioritize both God and money. God wants you to release your grip on your standard of living so you can have the quality of life that is satisfying. God has laid out financial principles for us to follow so that we can reduce our stress and frustration and increase our satisfaction. We can provide for our needs, plan for a secure future, and be generous. We can cooperate with God and care about the things He cares about and have the joy of making a difference in the world.

A fully devoted follower of Jesus prioritizes quality of living through discipline, and finds true life.

THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from the message?

There is a relationship between you and your ability to follow Christ and your willingness to get your financial house in order. Agree or disagree? Why?

There is a big difference between your standard living and quality of life. What do you know and whom do you know who indicates this is true?

Have you ever confused standard of living with quality of life? If so, what was the result?

We all live on a percentage of our income, but most of us don't know what it is. If we don't choose it, culture will choose it for us. Reflect and discuss.

Financial experts tell us that no matter what the income level, almost everyone believes they would be happy if they had just a little bit more. Why do you think that is so? Do you think there will ever be a time when we automatically say “enough”?

LOOK IT OVER <<<

What are the benefits of having financial margin? We always assume that margin comes with more money. It almost never does. It comes with less spending. What are the barriers to spending less? Try hard to be honest. Others live well on less than you do.

Jesus talked more about money than anything else. What do you remember that He said about money?

Principles for Slowing the Roll Financially:

- Make the decision to become financially sound.
- Keep track of your spending.
- Build a budget.
- Get out of debt, save and invest for the future.
- Become generous.

Where are you currently? What needs to come next? How are you currently being generous? Remember, generosity financially is NOT the tithe. It is beyond that.

What can inspire you to slow down and grow in this area?

NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) Identify where you are on slowing your roll and commit to take the next step.
- 2) Discuss with your spouse if you are married your new perspective, or with a friend if unmarried and ask for their prayers.
- 3) Pray daily to grow to a place where you can be consistently generous.

EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

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Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Monday: Psalm 37:5

Tuesday: Proverbs 11:25

Wednesday: Ecclesiastes 11:22

Thursday: Luke 12:15

Friday: Ecclesiastes 5:10

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.

(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)