

A

Accepting financial responsibility



The Word of God is filled with basic principles. One that is repeated throughout is that if we honor God with our wealth, we are blessed. My husband is on staff at a large church. There are more than enough people in the congregation to financially cover all of the church's operating expenses. However, there have been quite a few tight months. Why? Because many of them are young and untrained and do not understand the basic principle of tithing.

Proverbs 3:9-10 says, *"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."* There is a direct relation from our overflow to our giving. The Lord wants to bless us. It is His very nature, but He does ask that we honor Him before anything else.

I have heard so many financial testimonies of people who stepped out in faith and gave their tithes before paying those pending bills. Every testimony proves the Word of God. If we are faithful in giving God His portion, He will bless us above what is necessary for our survival.

Because of this godly truth, financial responsibility must be a priority in my life. Beyond just tithing, I need to examine how the money flows in and out of our home. This is another point that the Proverbs 31 woman exemplified for us. When we are wise with our wealth, it will increase.

Luke 16:10-12 tells us that *"whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"*

I want to be found faithful with what I have. Often Christians get the idea that we should not desire wealth. I think the issue is not whether or not to have wealth but what our motives might be. We should desire the overflow that is promised to us through our faithfulness. If God will bless us financially, then we will be more capable of funding the works of the Kingdom. God knows our hearts, and He can examine our faithfulness. I want very much to be found trustworthy, because I want very much to give to the areas of the Kingdom that are found with needs. This is a goal and priority in my life and my husband's.

"Honor the Lord with your wealth." Proverbs 3:9



Check Points:

Have I been faithful to tithe from my “firstfruits”? (before anything else)

Are there unwise financial dealings in my life? Is our income properly budgeted?

I recommend the study course offered by Crown Financial Ministries. This and similar Christian finance studies can provide you with tools of wisdom to get your financial business in godly order.

Life in the Fast Lane I 2005 is written by Linda Graham.

Life in the Fast Lane is a part of Online Bible Studies, provided by IPHC Women’s Ministries.

For more information call 405-787-7110, ext. 3227 or email WMSinfo@iphc.org