Luke

See Jesus He's Faithful – Don't Worry Luke 12:13-34

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / April 3, 2022

Four ways that you can push past the worry monster that might be holding you back from being the kind of generous giver God wants you to be:

I. Recognize that Your Worry has Absolutely No Power to Cure a Money Problem but Great Power to Obscure Everything You Need to Know about God

Financial worry can eclipse your view of God and your trust in God because it turns out the lights on what you need to be seeing and knowing about God in the middle of a money problem.

A. God is the Ultimate Provider for Everything This Universe Needs

It's God Who provides for us all. He's over it, He's on it, He's in it, and He's faithful!

B. God is your Father

Luke 12:24 "Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of **how much more** value are you than the birds!"

Luke 12:27-28 "Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin...²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass...**how much more** will He clothe you, O you of little faith!"

Worry is a leech that sucks the very life out of you, while adding absolutely nothing!

Luke 12:25-26 "And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?"

You're not self-sufficient, self-sustaining, autonomous, or independent like God. You have to be cared for and provided for like the rest of creation, and that's His job!

Luke 12:30 "...your Father knows that you need these things."

II. Recognize that Your Giving is Ultimately the Only Sound Money Investment You'll Ever Make in This Life

Every dollar you invest into an earthly fund is high risk by its very nature because there is no guarantee in this life.

The only place that you can put your money that is air-tight—100% secure—is when you give it away or send it on ahead by investing in kingdom business. It's not a loss or an expense, it's an investment!

Luke 12:33 "Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys."

Some of you have money in the bank and money in funds, but you're actually financially insecure and on shaky ground because you've got little or nothing invested in God's kingdom, where the return on your investment is eternal and air-tight!

The category of giving and investing in "kingdom" business should be at the top of your financial list.

III. Recognize that a Giving Problem is Really a Heart Problem that Runs Far Deeper than Your Wallet

Heart and money are tangled up together in the Bible. They are so connected and feed off of one another! The direction your money's going now is the direction your heart will be pointed soon.

Luke 12:34 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

"Suppose you buy shares of General Motors. What happens? You suddenly develop interest in GM. You check the financial pages. You see a magazine article about GM and read every word, even though a month ago you would have passed right over it. As surely as the compass needle follows north, your heart will follow your treasure.

Do you wish you cared more about eternal things? Then reallocate some of your money, maybe most of your money, from temporal things to eternal things. Watch what happens."

~ Randy Alcorn, *The Treasure Principle*

IV. Get Honest about Your Excuses

- "I need to save money before I can start giving."
- "I want to give, but I just keep forgetting."
- "Churches are all about money."
- "I give to other charities and the 'church' at large."
- "I can't give I'm single or a poor college student."

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The best time to start obeying God with your money is always today. Don't wait for a "better season" of life. Start now, and watch what God can do when He sees you trust Him and honor Him with the money He sends your way.

Homework:

- 1. Right now, write down what % of your income you think you gave away this past year by investing in the church and kingdom business.
- 2. Go home and look up the actual figures and see what you really gave away.
- 3. Find yourself on the giving chart of our church family and make plans to grow or increase your giving.

- 4. Go to the website and set up your giving to our church family to be automatic. There's three easy ways you can do it:
 - #1 Mobile. Text GRACEKY to 833.751.7387
 - #2 In the Grace Fellowship App Click "GIVE."
 - #3 Go online to graceky.org/give (or the homepage and click the "Give" button.)
- 5. Share with one other person what your plans are and how you want to give this year and ask them to hold you accountable and ask you about it.