

LESSON 6 // MANAGE YOUR RESOURCES—PART 1

Big Idea: To live wisely, we must understand how to manage our lives and resources God's way. This includes taking good care of our finances as faithful stewards of what He has given us.

How can you honor God with your finances? First of all, you must love the Lord and people, rather than material goods. Then you need to put God first in your finances, giving and managing your money with this in mind. It's also important to welcome work as an opportunity and blessing from God. Finally, you honor the Lord financially when you live within your means and deal aggressively with debt.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV) *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.*

Start Talking:

What has been the hardest challenge for you in managing your material resources wisely in a way that honors God? What successes have you seen along the way?

Start Thinking:

Read Matthew 6:24 and 1 John 2:15-17. How do these verses speak to you about loving God rather than the material things of this world?

Read Proverbs 3:9-10 and Malachi 3:10. What does it mean to “honor the Lord with your wealth” (Proverbs 3:9)? How is giving a vital part of this?

Read Proverbs 13:11, 14:23 and Colossians 3:23. Why is hard work such an important part of a managing your finances wisely and well?

Read Proverbs 6:6-8 and 22:7. What are some things you can do practically to live within your means financially and avoid debt?

Start Praying:

Pray that God will give you practical wisdom to manage your money in a way that honors Him so He can use it to advance His kingdom.

Start Doing:

Write out a basic plan for using your financial resources based on the principles and promises you learned in this lesson (or, if you already have a good plan, review it and pray over it!). Set a few short-term and long-term goals that will help you grow your money and increase your opportunities to give generously to the Lord and others.