

“A Sudden Realization”

Lost, Part 1

October 4th & 7th, 2018

Self-assurance and confidence are not guarantees you won't get **LOST** in life

1. You can get lost in just about any **AREA** of life

In all the realms of life, your personal finances should be the **EASIEST NOT** to be or get lost

You know how **MUCH** comes in, and you **SEND** it out wherever it goes

Being lost financially has nothing to do with how much you **MAKE**

If you are where you never planned to be, not sure how you got there, and really not sure how to get back to where you need to be – that's the **DEFINITION** of “lost”

2. If you are lost financially, you can't **wholeheartedly** follow Jesus

1 John 4:20 (NIV) “If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.”

Jesus said **TOO MUCH** about money for us to say, “I am a wholehearted follower of Christ, but I'm lost financially”

Matthew 6:21 (NIV) [Jesus said] “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Where we send our money, our **ATTENTION** follows it

In a very real sense the condition of our personal finances is a reflection of our **HEART**

If your personal finances are out of whack or you are lost, your **HEART** will be mixed in there with it

Luke 16:13 (NIV) [Jesus said] “No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

Your heart and money are **LINKED**

The #1 competition God faces for our heart is our **MONEY** and **STUFF**

If we are truly going to follow Christ, we must surrender the **FINANCIAL** realm of our life to Christ

Proverbs 22:7 (NIV) “The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.”

Jesus isn't trying to get our money; He's trying to keep our money from **GETTING US**

Money is a **SPIRITUAL** issue

1 Chronicles 29:11 (NIV) “Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is Yours...”

Challenge: Why not invite God into your finances **NOW**?

3. I want you to be free so that you can do **WHATEVER** God prompts you to do

- I want you to trust God with **EVERY AREA** of your life
- I want you to experience God's **FAITHFULNESS** financially
- I want you to be financially **SECURE**

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV) “In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has.”

Proverbs 21:20 (NLT) “...but fools spend whatever they get.”

God wants you to be **CONTENT**

Luke 12:15 (NIV) “Then He [Jesus] said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’”

1 Timothy 6:6 (NLT) “True godliness with contentment is itself great wealth.”

Hebrews 13:5 (TM) “Don’t be obsessed with getting more material things. Be relaxed with what you have. Since God assured us, ‘I’ll never let you down, never walk off and leave you.’”

4. You can’t get “unlost” financially until you know where your money **IS GOING**

Proverbs 27:23-24 (NLT) “Riches can disappear fast. And the king’s crown doesn’t stay in his family forever – so watch your business interests closely. Know the state of your flocks and your herds.”

Challenge/assignment: **WRITE DOWN** where all your money is going for the next 5 weeks – use whatever system works for you – but do it!!!

If you don’t know where your money is going, it’s your **FAULT**

In finances the opposite of lost isn’t “found” – it’s discovering where you **ARE** so you can get to where you **WANT TO BE**. To do this, you must **KNOW** where your money goes

You can’t wholeheartedly follow your Savior, if you are financially **LOST**

My Next Step Today Is:

- I am inviting God into my finances now
- I will take the challenge and track all my expenses for the next 5 weeks
- I am interested in being baptized next Sunday, October 14th

Next week: Join us as we talk about, “Moving to Higher Ground.” Invite a friend!