

**“RESCUED”**  
**Lost, Part 5**  
November 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**A Quick Review**

You can't remain financially lost and wholeheartedly follow **Jesus**  
Matthew 6:24 (NIV) “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.”

Jesus said more about **money** than any single topic, yet He never **asked** for any (see Mark 12:15-17)

Jesus believes our money and hearts are **linked**  
Matthew 6:21 (NIV) “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

God is most interested – not in your money – but in your **heart**  
Mark 12:30 (NIV) “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

**4 Financial Decisions You Need To Make To Avoid Being “Lost” Financially**

Proverbs 28:26 (NIV) “He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe.”

We need to learn to walk in wisdom by asking, “What is the **wise** thing to do in this situation?”

Scripture teaches the person who pays no attention to wise counsel, but does what he/she wants to do is **foolish**

Why would we take our financial cues from a culture that wants a lot **from** us but doesn't necessarily want anything **for** us?

Your Heavenly Father wants something **for** you; He doesn't need anything **from** you

**1. Choose a **percentage** of your income on which to live, & then live on it**

It is far better for you to pick a percentage of your income you want to live on, instead of letting our culture and greed drive you to an **unhealthy** percentage to live on

It's more fun to **choose** what I will not own, than to own what I can't **afford**  
Philippians 4:12 (NIV) “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.”

The difference in the gap between your income & lifestyle is called **margin** & **peace**

When your financial margin disappears, **tension** goes up & your **peace** goes away

**2. Track your **spending****

Proverbs 27:23,24 (LB) “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.”

The more you have, the more important it is to track your money because the more you have, the more inclined you are to **waste** your money

Remember - it's not yours anyway – it belongs to **God** & you are **managing** it for Him

**3. Get rid of dumb **debt****

Get rid of debt on assets which are not **appreciating** in value

Proverbs 22:7 (NAS) “The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower becomes the lender's slave.”

You are just an account **number** in a company's computer that wants something **from** you, not something **for** you

Going public with your debt may be **embarrassing** at first, but you'll be very **glad** at the end

Being "private" initially helped get you into the **mess** you're in now

#### 4. **Give first, save second, & live on the rest**

If you fund God's Kingdom first, save & fund your future second, and live on the rest, you can't go **broke**

God honors an "**others first**" attitude and perspective

Matthew 7:12 (NIV) "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you,..."

When you live this way, you **align** yourself with God's values & give an invitation for **God** to get involved in the realm of your personal finances

John 3:16 (NIV) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Generosity first does two things: 1. breaks the power of **greed** in your life  
2. bridles your **discontentment**

Our culture says, **spend** first, if anything is left over try to **save** it; I wish I could **given** more, but I didn't have any money

You don't know what God has in store for you; you must be **ready**

You can learn God's wisdom from the **Bible** or from the **hard** way in life

We don't apply these simple principles because we lack knowledge; we don't apply them because we lack **self-control**

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

God's Spirit can give you the **motivation** & **power** to follow through and do what God has called you to do

Philippians 1:6 (NLT) "For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him."

#### **My Next Step Today Is...**

- Of the 4 financial steps God is impressing me to do \_\_\_ #1; \_\_\_ #2; \_\_\_ #3; \_\_\_ #4
- I/we will attend Class 101-Introduction to Life at New Hope next Sun, Nov 11<sup>th</sup> @ 12:30 pm w/Pastor Russ
- I/we plan to attend the financial seminar(s) \_\_\_ Different types of investing Sun, Nov 11 @ 11:30 am; \_\_\_ Dave Ramsey's (3 hour) "Smart Money" live stream event, Thurs, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> at beginning 4:45 pm

Next Week: We begin a brand new message series "**When God...**" Invite a friend!!!