



Good Cents

Developing A Plan

Pastor Mike | September 24, 2017

You can basically do five things with money:

1. Spend it
2. Repay debt
3. Pay taxes
4. Save it
5. Give it

The two things that govern what goes toward those five categories are:

1. Priorities
2. Self-control

This typically plays out as:

- First is me (now).
- Second is me (later).
- Third is America.
- Last is God and others.
 - We want Him involved as a helper while not honoring Him with what He desires!

In order to develop a plan, you must realize your current plan is not working.

Malachi 3:7-10 (AMP) *“Yet from the days of your fathers you have turned away from My statutes and ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord of hosts. “But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ “Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings [you have withheld]. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, this whole nation! Bring all the tithes (the tenth) into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you [so great] a blessing until there is no more room to receive it.*

Matthew 6:24 (AMP) *“No one can serve two masters; for 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 God and mammon [money, possessions, fame, status, or whatever is valued more than the Lord].*

Matthew 6:31-33 (AMP) *Therefore do not worry or be anxious (perpetually uneasy, distracted), saying, 'What are we going to eat?' or 'What are we going to drink?' or 'What are we going to wear?' For the [pagan] Gentiles (Those who don't recognize God) eagerly seek all these things; [but do not worry,] for your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.*

Prioritizing God's interests financially is an invitation to His activity in your life, because He waits to be welcomed.

The direction/priority of your money reflects the direction/priority of your heart.

Matthew 6:21 (AMPC) *"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."*

Proverbs 3:9-10 (AMPC) *"Honor the Lord with your capital and sufficiency [from righteous labors] and with the first fruits of all your income; So shall your storage places be filled with plenty, and your vats shall be overflowing with new wine."*

We have to flip the list of our current priorities to:

1. Give it
2. Save it
3. Pay taxes
4. Repay debt
5. Spend it

Or to simplify:

Give // Save // Live or 10//10//80

Prayer: God, I want to make sure *your* kingdom and *your* concerns get funded first. I'll figure out a way to live on the rest.