

**HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH? FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP
YOU CAN'T FAKE STEWARDSHIP**
SESSION ONE

OVERVIEW: Stewardship is provable by inspection of your daily life through your calendar and your checkbook. Failing to be a good steward of the resources God has entrusted you with will cause you to miss out on a great deal.

Hebrews 12:1

1) Hope and Encouragement

We have hope -- we have the greatest opportunity to bring billions into the Kingdom RIGHT NOW!

2) Unity and Communication

It is essential that we have good quality communication in our families.

***SEVENTY PERCENT OF AMERICAN WOMEN WILL EXPERIENCE WIDOWHOOD – THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE AMERICAN WIDOW IS 52!
Wives will have a great deal more money to manage than their husbands will.***

3) Stewardship

If you aren't a good steward you will:

- 1) miss the opportunity that God has given to you
- 2) miss the relationship with the Lord and with your family
- 3) miss the rewards – you won't experience the rewards that are possible
- 4) miss the miracle of seeing God work in your life

Stewardship is the one area of the Christian life that you can't fake

- 1) you can fake witnessing
- 2) you can fake getting along with your spouse

The reason you can't fake stewardship is that you keep a daily written record (called your checkbook). If you truly believe God owns it all – you are a manager or trustee of His resources – then, you can't fake stewardship because your checkbook proves your stewardship.

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Stewardship (your checkbook) reveals:

- Your character**
- Your goals**
- Your dreams**
- Your mistakes**
- Your relationships**

God uses money in our lives in three ways:

- God uses money as a tool to accomplish His purposes*
- God uses money as a test to reveal our character to ourselves*
- God uses money as a testimony of our faith*

INSIGHT QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. What do you truly believe about the ownership of all things? How is this reflected in your lifestyle?**
- 2. Do you and your spouse have the same beliefs about stewardship? How does this affect your marriage?**
- 3. Has someone ever ridiculed you for “giving away too much”? What happened – how did it make you feel – what did you do?**
- 4. Are there areas in which you’d like to give more away right now but feel unable to do so? Why – what will you do?**

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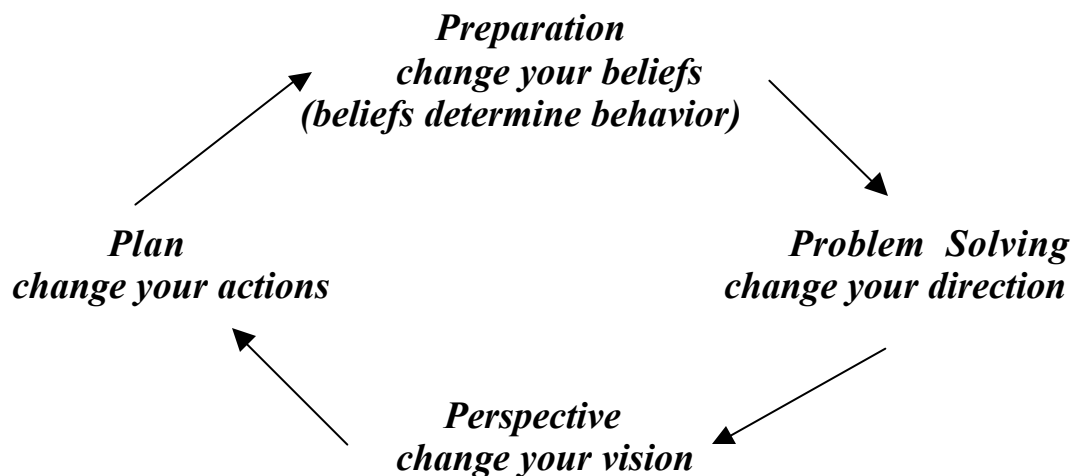
HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH? FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP THE WEALTH PARADOX

SESSION TWO

OVERVIEW: *The more wealth you have, the more choices you can make. All too often, this causes life to become more complex rather than simpler. Do you have a plan to deal with the wealth God has given you to manage?*

Wealth Paradox -- *The more you have the more choices you have – this makes life more difficult.*

Process of Generous Living



Questions to ask yourself -----

1. *Will I ever have enough?*
2. *Will it continue to be enough?*
3. *How much is enough?*
4. *Is it wrong to have wealth? Are you funding a lifestyle that your children can never afford?*
5. *How much is enough to accumulate? Is it wrong to retire?*
6. *How much is enough to leave to your children... should you leave an inheritance for your children?*
7. *How do you know when have you given enough?*
8. *How much is too much?*

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**YOU CANNOT ACCUMULATE ENOUGH TO FEEL GOOD, TO
FEEL SECURE, OR TO FEEL SIGNIFICANT**

***If you don't leave your children wisdom, don't leave them
wealth!***

**WHEN WE GET WRAPPED UP IN THE GETTING, WE CAN'T
RESPOND TO GOD'S GIVING!**

INSIGHT QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What do you believe is the key to financial freedom?
2. Do you feel financially free? Are you financially free?
3. Do you and your spouse agree on the amount of “financial freedom” you need for your family? If not, why not?
4. Do you plan to leave an inheritance for your children? Why or why not? Do you and your spouse agree on this issue?

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**HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH? FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP
THE THREAT OF PROSPERITY AND THE THREAT OF
FEAR**

SESSION THREE

OVERVIEW: *It has been said that the prosperity of the western world is the greatest hindrance to a meaningful relationship with the Lord. How do you feel about this statement? Can it be applied to you?*

**The Greatest risk facing America today –
THE THREAT OF PROSPERITY.**

Ninety five percent of those facing the test of persecution – *pass it.*
Ninety five percent of those facing the test of prosperity – *fail it.*

THE THREAT OF FEAR

TEN OUT OF TWELVE CHRISTIANS ARE SCARED TO DEATH!!!

Economic uncertainty is CERTAIN!!

Prosperity is only true in retrospect.

Cycles are normative and Biblical (things will go up and will go down).

The future cannot be predicted.

*We do not have an economic crisis – we have a moral
crisis.*

Windows of opportunity don't stay open forever.

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INSIGHT QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. Have you allowed prosperity to hinder your relationship with the Lord? How?**
- 2. What has hindered your relationship with the Lord?**
- 3. What are you afraid of losing?**
- 4. What has your fear caused you to do regarding your relationship with Jesus? Are you satisfied with your response? If not, how will you change your response?**
- 5. How do you feel about the question – “Do you kill the chicken or do you sell the eggs”?**

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