

Building a Strong Family

Week 7: Where should my treasure lie?

Candace Nassar, March 20, 2024

Luke 16:10-13: “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own? 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.”

Big Idea: Strong families find _____ by investing in God’s Kingdom.

Principles to Gain Victory Over Materialism

1) Give _____.

- a) **Mark 12:43-44:** “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”
- b) **Randy Alcorn:** “*We can’t take it with us but we can _____ it on ahead.*”

2) Give _____.

- a) **Proverbs 22:9:** The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.
- b) Gratitude turns what we have into _____.
- c) **2 Corinthians 8:1-2.** And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own.

Try these at home:

- 1) Start with _____!
 - a) Pray to be on the same _____ with your husband, if you are married.
 - b) Pray about how much and _____ to give
 - i) Start with the local church.
- 2) Suggestions to encourage giving in your home:
 - a) In your marriage
 - i) Don't have _____ bank accounts if possible.
 - ii) Don't carry revolving _____.
 - iii) Do _____ and stick to a budget
 - iv) Do simplify and live _____.
 - b) With your kids
 - i) Model biblical principles
 - ii) Teach the ___ jars method
 - iii) Practice _____.

Action Item: Begin with prayer. Then pick one or two of the suggestions to encourage giving in your home.

Questions for Discussion:

- 1) What do you think about Randy Alcorn's quote: "We can't take it with us but we can send it on ahead"?
- 2) What is your biggest obstacle in giving to God's kingdom?
- 3) Share about a time when you gave generously and were blessed.
- 4) What is something you learned today that you will put into practice?