

****Bumper Video – God Pie**

[PROPS

1. **Stick with money sign on it to show balance. Holder for it to sit in**

If money could talk what would it say about your life?

Welcome to the 2nd week of the **Money Talks** series.

I want to remind you that there is no Gotcha to this series. People get very nervous when people start talking about money. We aren't talking about money because we are about to ask you for some. We aren't here to guilt you into giving. We don't have a financial campaign around the corner like a building fund or ask you to pledge so much money over the course of the next few months. There is no GOTCHA to this series.

We want to help you understand money management. We want to see your finances flourish. This is why we are talking about Money. I hope you believe me. We want good things for you.

Last week we said Money Talks and it tells you about your **Balance**. We listed a bunch of stats that show the majority of Americans are completely off balance. I told you about 1ST PREMIER credit card company that charged interest rates up to 49.9% and had 2.6 million customers. I'm happy to tell you more than 1 family went home and cut up a 1st Premier credit card this last week.

We talked about the **3 laws of balance**.

Reference Point – Know where your money is going. We encouraged you to keep track of your spending

Constant Corrections – Form a budget and live by it.

Clear Objective – You need a clear goal! A balanced objective for your finances.

Honor God with All

1 Chronicles 29 David – the King of Israel declared that all strength, power, & wealth..

1 Chron 29:14 ...Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

Nothing you give, nothing you spend, nothing you save comes from you... It all comes from God.

We challenged you to **Honor God with all**. This is the best way to have balance in your finances. Because you honor God as you make your working wage, you honor God as you provide for your family, you honor God as you save and as you give... And as you honor God you never become prideful, worried, or greedy... because you realize it all come from God your father.

Honor God with all your finances. Not just a tithe, a 10% but all of it.

Today I want you to know that Money Talks and it **Reveals Priority**

Want to know what is most important in your life? Ask George. He can tell you.

Are your really generous as you think you are?

How committed are you to your kids education?

How committed are to you to your retirement?

How committed are you to the Kingdom of God? George knows.

Money Talks and it Reveals Priority

If it truly reveals then how do people get in so much trouble in their finances? How do they go so far down the line before their problem is revealed?

Money doesn't follow the law of immediacy

There are some things in life that reveal themselves
IMMEDIATELY...

If you were to throw a punch into my face there would be immediate results...

If you were to take a chainsaw and saw through the base of a tree in your backyard there would be an immediate result.

There are some things you could say in a relationship that would bring an immediate halt to the relationship.

We usually are respective of these things that bring immediate results...

I have a fear of heights because I OVER-respect the immediate response of falling from a great height.

I am so careful around great heights that I can hardly move.

We are usually very careful around things that bring immediate results... but **Money doesn't follow the law of immediacy.**

The bad decisions we make don't immediately put us into insurmountable debt

...Bankruptcy or foreclosure ...make us greedy money grubbers

These things happen over time.

Good decisions we make don't immediately free us from debt...

...ready for retirement ...pay for our kids college

These things happen over time.

Money doesn't follow the law of immediacy.

Money follows the law of the harvest.

Galatians 6:7-9 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.(NIV)

The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.(NIV)

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.(NIV)

Money isn't instant. Remember that things that follow the law of immediacy we tend to be very careful about...

Things that follow the law of the harvest are often treated wrecklessly. (this applies to more than money)

Because we don't see the immediate effects of our actions and decisions we keep right on sowing. It isn't too late when a harvest comes up that we usually understand.

This is really misleading... because it always feels like troubles come with immediacy. The law of the harvest tells us that this crop is a result of Sowing over a period of time.

Here is an example...

It feels like "EVERYTHING BREAKS AT ONCE AND AT THE WORST TIME" Your car battery died, your glasses broke and the rent is due all at once. Although this problem feels immediate it is the result of sowing over time...

You know when your rent is due. You also know that things break. There is no mystery to this... however we always act SO SURPRISED!

If you have JUST ENOUGH money to make the scheduled payments you know are coming... you will be blindsided by the unscheduled payments that are coming.

This is how a lot of people fall into debt. Suddenly they need to spend money they don't have to take care of combined scheduled and unscheduled payments... WHERE DO YOU THINK THEY TURN? Loans or credit cards... Then they are in debt with interest.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE LIFE LIKE THIS! You need to invoke the Law of the Harvest.

What if you SOWED into an emergency savings fund over time? What if you built up \$1000 for the purpose of emergencies? Then when problems come you will reap what you have sown over time.

If you are in one large cycle of debt the first thing I recommend to you is build an emergency fund of \$1000. When problems come you can draw from this emergency fund rather than fall further into debt. AND WHEN YOU DRAW FROM THE FUND you start sowing back into it and build it back to \$1000. Because you know the next problem is coming.

Money follows the law of the harvest.

Pay attention to the Law of the Harvest. Apply it to the decisions you are making.

If we don't understand this law we will always be reacting to the problems of life instead of building and planning our future.

Money Talks but if we don't understand this law we will never perceive what money is trying to reveal to us. Or if we do understand we may understand it too late.

Real quick...

The time to think about saving... to by a new car is BEFORE YOU NEED THE NEW CAR.

The time to think about saving... for college is BEFORE YOU NEED TO PAY FOR COLLEGE.

The time to think about saving... for retirement is BEFORE YOU NEED TO DEPEND ON RETIREMENT.

Money Talks and it Reveals Priority.

I am going to talk about 3 priorities revealed to us by money. Reveals Focus, Master, Heart

Money reveals Focus, Your Master, and Your Heart.

- Money Reveals Focus

What is your life focused on? We challenged you to watch your spending this last week. To write down every purchase. If you did that you should look back over it and see what your money is saying to you.

Did you spend an unbalanced amount on eating out?

How about entertainment? We will spend \$70 a month on Cable Tv and then sit down and declare there to be nothing on Tv so we go to a movie...

What keeps showing up in your spending is your focus?

Did savings make your spending list this last week? Did giving make your list? Do you mainly spend on yourself?

Sometimes we claim to have a focus but our money doesn't agree.

Do you care about your kids education... does George Washington agree?

Money Reveals Focus

Let's combine this focus with the law of the harvest...

A focus on SPENDING reaps DEBT & MATERIALISM

A focus on SAVING reaps WEALTH & GREED

A focus on GIVING reaps RECEIVING

Not all sowing is the same. When we sow into others, when we GIVE, we reap a SUPERNATURAL harvest.

Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."(NIV)

How many knows God loves a cheerful Giver? (2 Cor 9:7)

The law of the harvest can be physical. Sow spending reap debt... That's physical...

But sowing GIVING and reaping RECEIVING is a supernatural law. It goes beyond physical. In the physical giving should reap debt... but something spiritually powerful happens when you give.

Remember that your money came from Him anyway! He has decided to bless you exponentially when you take what He has given to you and then give it to others. This is the same Lord who says "It is more BLESSED to GIVE than to RECEIVE." Make Giving your focus... Giving is Supernatural.

Here is another SUPERNATURAL LAW for giving! Specifically Tithing.

Malachi 3:10-11 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.(NIV)

I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty.(NIV)

Are there things devouring your crop? Do you constantly situations come up that drain your finances. Sometimes these drains aren't physical... they are

spiritual! The enemy comes to kill steal and destroy and your finances aren't off limits to his evil plan.

BUT WHEN YOU TITHE... The Lord Himself rebukes the devourer.

I challenge you to try it. Only in God's SuperNatural way can you give and come out ahead! You can give 10% of your income and come out better than you would have had you kept the 100%. God is supernatural!! Will you trust Him with your finances?

- **Money Reveals your Master**

Matthew 6:24 "No one 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.(NIV)

Woah hold on... I think Jesus made a mistake here... He says you can't serve God and money... Surely he meant you can't serve God and the Devil... Jesus made no mistake.

You can either MASTER YOUR MONEY or your MONEY WILL MASTER YOU.

It seems to me that Jesus is saying you are either going to love money as your master and hate Jesus as your master or the opposite... Love Jesus as master and hate money.

Money isn't my master Pastor! Oh it isn't? Are you in debt? Because the Bible clearly tells us that debt enslaves us as a master.

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

Your money reveals who you have chosen as your master. Spending or Saving money can master you or Jesus can master you.

Don't be a slave to money... Choose the Lord as your master.

- **Money Reveals your Heart**

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

Money reveals your treasure and your treasure reveals your heart.

Your heart and your treasure occupy the same space.

But notice – the scripture doesn't say your treasure follows your heart... But that your heart follows your treasure.

It has become the norm of Christianity to say God has my heart but to then live a life that doesn't treasure God. If He really is going to be the Lord of your HEART He needs to be your Treasure.

We treasure our stuff. Your stuff is your treasure. That is why it makes us real uncomfortable to talk about God and money. HANDS OFF MY STUFF. Just like a 3 year old... "Heyyyy that's mine"

If you aren't surrendering your stuff to God... you aren't surrendering your heart.

The Rich young ruler thought he treasured God... He thought the keeping of every religious command revealed He treasured God... Jesus didn't argue with Him about the keeping of commands... Jesus told the rich young ruler to let go of his stuff and follow. The rich young ruler walked away sad. He couldn't let go of his stuff.

Is that you today? Are you not able to surrender your stuff?

If you aren't surrendering your stuff to God... you aren't surrendering your heart.

It's not about keeping religious commands... It's not about proclaiming you know Jesus... It's not about coming to church on Sunday or connect group midweek...

If you walk away from an encounter with Jesus still clinging to your stuff your Treasure has revealed your heart doesn't belong to Jesus.

This is a challenge. I invite you to come to this altar before today is over and surrender your stuff. I promise you you will be better off. Not only will you be a step closer to Jesus but you will find supernatural blessing and provision.

MUSICIAN

Why does God want my stuff?

God doesn't want your stuff... He wants your heart.

It's never been about your stuff. We think He wants our stuff because our stuff is all we think about.

What would God need your stuff for? Think about it. God does not need your stuff...

God doesn't want to have your stuff... He doesn't want your stuff to have you!

God will never take something from you that He won't replace... And He replaces it with Himself...

Has money been trying to talk with you? Perhaps you haven't been listening?