



Hope for our
[Finances]

Develop a **spiritual perspective** on money.

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all...

Acts 4:32-33

With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all...

Acts 4:33

Behavior is always driven by
what's happening **in our hearts.**

...there were no needy persons among them.

Acts 4:34a

God **owns** it all.

No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything had.

Acts 4:32b

Sacrificial giving was **voluntary** not compulsory.

Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing?

Acts 5:4

Private **ownership** continued.

What we possess is **claimed** by God (Acts 4:24) but **belongs** to us (Acts 5:4). My sacrificial giving is **voluntary** not obligatory.

The only obligation was **obedience**.

What made you think of doing such a thing?

Acts 5:4c

The people judged the most severely in Acts gave generously, but, out of fear, prioritizing security over sacrifice, **believed margin mattered more than obedience.**

Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means “son of encouragement”), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.

Acts 4:36–37

Prioritizing margin over obedience leads to a **path of bondage** of another kind.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

See spending decisions
as **spiritual decisions.**

For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need

Acts 4:34b-35

Spending, investing, and giving are complicated because they are relational and seasonal, not rigid and compulsory decisions.

We need wisdom

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:5

The miracle of Acts 4 is not simply that no one had need but that through spiritual discernment the **exact amount** that was needed came in on time, every time, from time to time.

We need priorities

The principle of stewardship precedes the principle of faith.

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Things We Can Do With Money



LIVE

Practice provision contentment and enjoyment because money is a tool .

1 Timothy 4:4; 5:8; 6:6-10



GIVE

Open my hand to release God's resources. He wants my heart connected to His Kingdom story.

Matthew 6:19-24
2 Corinthians 8:9-11
Luke 16:13



OWE

(DEBT)

Eliminate debt because debt presumes upon the future.

Proverbs 22:7
James 4:13-16



OWE

(TAXES)

Pay taxes with gratitude.

Matthew 22:17-21



GROW

Grow in financial maturity by giving up today's desires for tomorrow's benefit.

Proverbs 6:6-8
Luke 14:28-30

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8



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