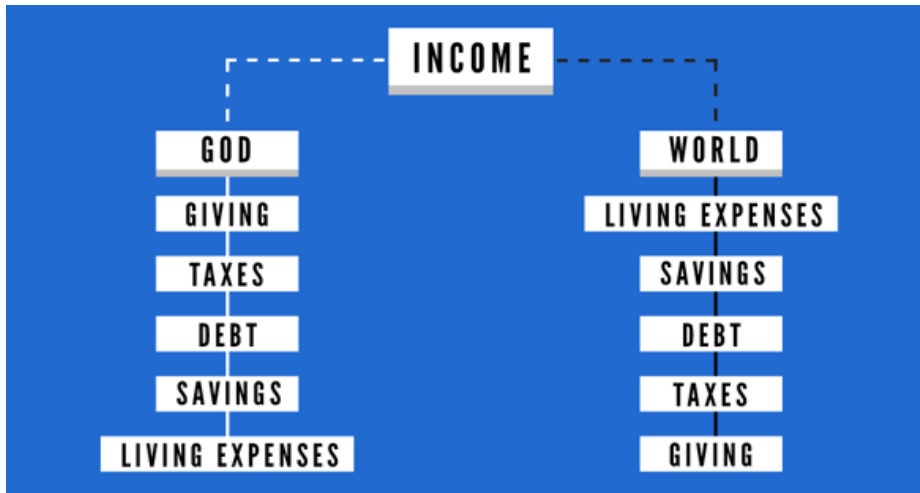


OUT OF CONTROL

FINANCES

September 6-7, 2014

- Open in prayer.
- What do these statements say to you?
 - What does it mean to “steward” our money?
 - Money is a litmus test of where our true treasure is.
 - Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart is also.”
- **When the world is out of control, how do you steward God’s money?**
- **Tap into the riches of Christ Jesus’ grace.**
 - Read 2 Corinthians 8:9
 - Every human being was/is spiritually dead—spiritually separated from God.
 - It’s not about money, it’s about God’s grace.
- Read Ephesians 2:1-7
 - Jesus didn’t come to make bad people good; he came to make spiritually dead people alive in Him.
 - Humility should be the fragrance that we wear when we realize that at the foot of the cross every single human being is in need of grace.
 - What is God’s “big but” in this passage?
 - Discipleship is growing in your appreciation of God’s love, grace and mercy.
- When was the last time you drank from the well of unending mercy and grace?
- When was the last time you were appreciative of God’s mercy and grace?
 - Read Psalm 103:11
 - How great is God’s love?
- **Give generously to the cause of Christ through your local church first, and then give to other Christ-centered ministries.**
 - The first check you and I should write is the check to the local church.
 - If we wait to give to God with our “leftovers”, there won’t be anything “left over”.
 - Giving is a by-product of Grace.
- Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-6
 - Discuss where Paul said, “In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.”
 - How does this passage reflect living an upward, inward, outward life through our generosity?
- **Develop a budget, for the glory of Christ.**
 - There are two ways to look at our budget. Discuss the chart on the next page, and what it means for us to give according to God’s Generosity.
 - Encourage your TC group members to attend the Transform U:Finance workshop.



- Read and discuss each verse of 2 Corinthians 9:12-15.
 - It's really not about money; it's about receiving the grace of God and allowing God's grace to move through our generosity.
- **Learn to be content in Christ**
 - Read Philippians 4:11-13
- The American economy spends all of its time encouraging us not to be content.
- How does your life change when you live contentedly in Christ?
- Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19
 - How does this passage speak to us today—especially in our giving?
 - How does giving change your life? Does your giving change your life?
- Read Philippians 4:15-20
 - Giving is an act of worship—it's a sweet-smelling offering to God.
 - We receive a reward—God will meet your needs. He is true to his promises.
 - How is giving an act of worship in response to His grace?
- **Soul-Tattoo:** Tap into Jesus' grace: Give generously, develop a budget, and learn contentment.
 - Attend the Transform U: Finance Workshop
 - September 16/23/30
 - Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8pm
 - TC 521, Auditorium C
- Value of Generosity:
 - We are committed, by the Spirit's enabling power, to financial generosity. We cannot outgive our God; therefore, we will teach and live biblical financial stewardship. One day we hope to give away 30% of our income.
 - Five Characteristics of a Transformer: Worship | Connect | Serve | Give | Invite
 - If you're interested in giving online, go to www.transformationchurch.tc/give/

CALENDAR

Backpack Meals Food Collection
Newcomer Connection
Transform U: Finance Workshop
BECAUSE Campaign

Begins September 13-14
September 14
September 16, 23, 30
Because.TransformationChurch.tc