

Biblical Financial Principles

I am commanded to love God and to love others.

Matthew 22:36-40 - "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

God owns everything, I am His steward.

Deuteronomy 10:14 - To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it.

Psalms 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

God will provide for my needs.

Psalms 107:1-9 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south. Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle. They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle. Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

I should work to take care of me, my family, and others.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

1 Timothy 5:8 - Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-12 - In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."

Ephesians 4:28 - Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

The Bible has a lot to say about money and wealth. Depending on how you choose to count it, there are between 2,000-2,600 verses in the Bible that deal with financial matters.

What does the Bible say about....

Debt

- Aggressively get out of debt - Proverbs 6:1-5; Romans 13:8
- Borrower is slave to the lender - Proverbs 22:7
- Don't provide security for others - Proverbs 17:18

Giving

- It is more blessed to give than to receive – Acts 20:35
- God loves a cheerful giver – 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
- Giving should increase with income – 1 Corinthians 16:1-3
- Generous people prosper – Proverbs 11:24-25; Proverbs 3:9-10
- God blesses our giving – Malachi 3:10
- Sharing today has eternal impacts – 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Saving

- It's wise to save for the future – Proverbs 21:20; Genesis 41
- Do not hoard – James 5:1-6; Luke 12:13-21
- Honest, consistent saving is good – Proverbs 13:11
- Earning interest or investing is good – Matthew 25:27

Spending

- Be careful not to seek pleasure – Proverbs 21:17
- Be content with what you have – Hebrews 13:5
- Money and things are not eternal – Matthew 6:19-24

Therefore...**I should spend less than I make.**

Proverbs 21:5; Luke 14:28