

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

College graduation means many things but one of the most exciting things is that many of us will be financially independent for the first time! How should you handle your finances? What does God say about money? Did you know that God talks about money and possessions more than 2300 times in the Bible? That's more than He talks about heaven and hell combined. Let's find out why!

## **READ "THE PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL" IN LUKE 12:13-21**

Look at verses 13-15. What may have been the motive behind the person in the crowd telling Jesus to tell his brother to divide the inheritance with him? What warning does Jesus give to the crowd in verse 15?

When is a time you looked for wealth or possessions for satisfaction? What was the result?

Why do you think Jesus had a problem with the man's response to his own success in v.19? How does that compare with what our culture says about v.19?

What do you think it means to be "rich toward God" in v.21? How might this compare with Matthew 6:21 and 1 Tim 6:10?

What are practical ways you can be "rich toward God" with your upcoming paycheck and possessions?

## **SO WHAT SHOULD I DO?**

If Luke 12 illustrates how we shouldn't use our money, how should we? Study the scripture below and record what you learn.

Generosity – Luke 21:3-4, Prov 11:25, Prov 3:9-10, 2 Cor 9:7

Financial accountability – Prov 11:14, Ecclesiastes 5:10, Luke 16:11

Saving and Investing – Prov 13:22, Prov 21:5, Prov 13:11

Identifying Needs vs. Wants – 1 John 2:15-17, Prov 21:20, 1 Tim 5:8

Debt (credit cards) – Prov 22:7, Romans 13:8

## **RESOURCES**

Below is a short list of resources you can utilize as you create a plan to handle your finances!

- Dave Ramsey's 7 Baby Steps to Financial Freedom (Free!)
- The Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn (\$6.99)
- Total Money Makeover Workbook - Dave Ramsey (\$16.95)
- "Financial Peace University" online financial course - Dave Ramsey (\$129.99)

## **APPLICATION**

Which of the above resources are you interested in exploring?

Who is someone you can invite to speak into your financial stewardship upon graduation?