

# KNOW LIMITS

## How to Stop Stressing Over Money

**AUGUST 20, 2023**

Money can be one of the biggest stressors in life. Learning how to change our relationship with it and build margin into our lives can not only reduce our stress—it can do so much more.

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### MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- There's so much more to be gained by having proper financial boundaries than just freedom from unnecessary stress.
- In Luke 16:1-8, Jesus tells a parable that demonstrates how people of this world will use money strategically to achieve their goals based on their worldly priorities.
- "I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings." | Luke 16:9
- How we handle our money is an indicator of whether we can be trusted with true riches.
- Our money is actually God's, and we're the managers of it.
- People who follow Jesus' teachings store up their treasures in the next life, and those who don't store up their treasures here.
- What am I living for—this world and life, or the next?
- "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." | Luke 16:13
- Both God and money ask us to trust in them, and every day we choose which we believe.
- When you don't have financial margin, money dictates your life.
- Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God. | Proverbs 30:7-9
- Give first. Honor God by regularly setting aside an amount to give back.
- Save second. Build margin in your finances through saving.
- Live on the rest. Establish your standard of living on what remains.
- What should my budget look like to show that my ultimate home and my true treasure are in heaven?

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, how much stress do you feel about money? (1 being "none," and 10 being "AHHHH!")
2. How would you answer this question: "What is your money actually for?" Does your relationship with money (how you make it, how you spend it, etc.) match up with your answer?
3. In light of the idea that we are managers and stewards of the money God has given us, what adjustments do you feel could be made in how you approach and spend your money?
4. What are the greatest things you can do with your money that have eternal impact?