

SUNDAY—MAY 3

1 Kings 14-15; Luke 22:31-46

Old Testament New Testament _____

Philippians 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The chief subject of the verse above is not financial, but it does speak of pressing toward a mark. In a life, a good start is of utmost importance. Let me challenge you to save financially before you move out of your home and start your own family. Imagine if you had \$10-20,000 to start your marriage. You would be shocked at how fast that can disappear, but be a very helpful foundation. Just think, if you started at age 14 and saved \$50 per week... In eight years (age 22), you would have over \$20,000! Oh my, I wish I would have done that! Many of you could do even better. Most don't have the character and discipline to do it, but you could with God's help, especially if you do it for the right reason!

What did I learn from my Bible Reading? _____

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17 *Your*
DAILY
DIRECTI  **N**
 HERITAGE
 BAPTIST CHURCH



Name _____

17 *Your*
DAILY
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Name _____

MONDAY—APRIL 27

1 Kings 1-2; Luke 19:28-48

Old Testament New Testament _____

2 Kings 12:15 Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hand they delivered the money to be bestowed on workmen: for they dealt faithfully.

The word "money" is used 125 times in our King James Bible. To the supposedly spiritual, "money" is often looked upon with a negative connotation, yet it is a very important means of exchange in society. As a young man, I wish I had understood better the importance of money and the ability to control and have it work for me. Often we forsake our responsibility under the guise of "God will provide!" This can be a deceptive and lazy statement if not used in the proper context. A wise and responsible individual has a good handle on money. What do you now about finances? Now is the time to learn.

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SATURDAY—MAY 2

1 Kings 12-13; Luke 22:1-30

Old Testament New Testament _____

Ecclesiastes 7:12 For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

Imagine going into war with no weapons. What would you think of that individual? What if they said, "God will protect us!" You would think that person was a fool. Well, many Christians have the same attitude about money. I have been guilty for much of my life of this silly thinking. God wants us to use money as a weapon. Most Christians are defenseless in terms of their finances. We think money is supposed to just come to us, but that is not the case. We certainly need to be balanced. The key is your attitude—we need to secure money as long as money doesn't secure us. Talk to your parents or pastor about wise ways to have money defend you.

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FRIDAY—MAY 1

1 Kings 10-11; Luke 21:1-19

Old Testament New Testament _____

Proverbs 3:27 ¶ Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Don't you wish you could do good to people? It is a great feeling when you can do good financially to someone. Imagine the blessing of helping someone out—paying for their groceries, helping someone out of a bind, giving towards a special offering, etc. There are countless times I wished that I could give, but didn't have it in my hand. Often it was because of my own lack of wisdom and discipline when it came to my personal finances. Putting God first doesn't mean you forsake this area. Money is important. It is a means to an end. We are not to love it or serve it, but we are to have money serve and work for us. Learn how. Seek counsel and teaching on this subject while you are young.

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TUESDAY—APRIL 28

1 Kings 3-5; Luke 20:1-16

Old Testament New Testament _____

Romans 13:8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

The world's philosophy is a "get-it-now" philosophy. Few Christians ever really learn to discipline themselves to the place where they pay cash for everything. Instead we take the easy way of putting it on credit and paying for it later. This is a dangerous practice. The Bible says that "the borrower is servant to the lender." (Prov. 22:7). We should have ONE Lord, and that is God. While you have a clean slate, decide in your youth that you will save up for purchases. Learn the importance of waiting, and you will avoid paying much more (with interest) than you originally intended.

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WEDNESDAY—APRIL 29

1 Kings 6-7; Luke 20:27-47

Old Testament New Testament _____

1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

As a Christian you are charged with the stewardship of everything God gives to you. One important thing you need to consider is financial stewardship. Have you ever read a book on managing money? Have you ever given forethought to what things cost? Young people often have dreams, but never really figure out what it will take to make those dreams come true. I want to challenge you to "count the cost" of what it will take to do the things you believe God has for your life. Do you want to go to college, get married, buy a home, go on a missions trip, take a vacation, buy a car, etc... It all takes money. Sadly, the world knows more about handling this commodity than God's people.

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THURSDAY—APRIL 30

1 Kings 8-9; Luke 21:1-19

Old Testament New Testament _____

Matthew 5:42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

The Bible commands us to give. There are many ways to give, but one way is to give financially. The sad thing is for most Christians is the fact that they simply don't have the means to give. This is NOT always because its God's will. Sometimes people's lack of being frugal is the problem. Sometimes God's people are not proactive (that means lazy) in being wise to accumulate financial gain. We often talk of the faith of Abraham. "He left all and followed God!" He didn't leave all! He left Ur, and took what he owned with him. He was a very wealthy man, yet loved God dearly. God was able to use Abraham's resources throughout his life to help him in many ways.

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