

How Did I Get Into This Mess

Introduction

This teaching will have value to you if you are experiencing financial challenges in your life right now. Many of you may be questioning your relationship with God, because of your current financial challenges. I have good news for you. God did not create your financial challenges, so instead of doubting God's work in your life, and beating yourself up, why don't you allow His word to help you resolve your financial challenges.

One of the things we all can agree on is that we all want to be healthy financially. We talk about Drama Queens. But we don't often talk about Drama Greens. Let me assure you, if you have enough Green you can even deal with Drama Queens. (Forgive me Sisters). We just don't call guys Drama Kings. It still puts us in a position to be admired.

Let's look at several practical reasons that many Good Christians have financial Problems:

1. You are saddled with Credit Card Debt.
2. Your Credit Score is really messed up.
3. The month is longer than your money.
4. You just can't seem to find a way to save money.
5. The car you bought or leased is driving you to the poorhouse.
6. You are hiding financial problems from your future/current spouse.
7. You and your spouse never agree on how to allocate money.
8. You're a single parent and there never seems to be enough money to take care of the children, the bills, and you.
9. Your dream house has turned into a nightmare.
10. Maybe you've been victimized by downsizing or you got laid off.
11. The business you started didn't take off like you thought it would.
12. Acquiring and managing money has always been a problem.
13. Tithing never seems to fit into your budget, but not for a lack of trying.

The above list may seem long, but these are just a few real life financial situations that millions of people go through every single day. Don't believe the enemy who wants you to feel like you're the only person in the world going through tough money problems. *USA Today* recently reported that half of all Americans are experiencing a financial crisis of some sort. That's a lot of people! You see, you are not alone.

Now is the time to turn to God who said: "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Look here if you are in a season in your life of financial difficulty, be encouraged because God's word has a solution for your life.

We are in the middle of a Spiritual Encounter called Cleansing Stream and the first lesson begins with a quote from Jeremiah 29: 11, ***“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not evil, to give you a future and a hope.”***

You must be convinced that God has a plan for your life, how ever long or short. It is a plan that is life long. God’s plan could not envision us broke, financially challenged, or as it is said: “Broke, Busted and Disgusted.”

Though I had money or access to money before I met God and allowed Him to choose my destiny. I never dreamed that the life God had for me, would be this wonderful and full of excitement. In spite of the financial challenges that trying to purchase the Mall brought to my life. Now that I am a few months away from the pain and pressure. I am more excited about God’s financial potential in my life than every before.

God loves to demonstrate His faithfulness toward those who trust Him—just ask brother Job. Brother Job was blameless and upright, and one who feared the Lord and shunned evil (Job 1: 1). He was sailing through life as the Bill Gates of his time; one of the world’s richest men.

Can you imagine having all that wealth, a wonderful family, respect in the community, then all of a sudden the bottom falls out, because of what you have done right. Job lost everything. He lost home, family, and wealth. Yet God restored Job, just like He wants to restore you and all of His children.

I). God Can Change Your Financial Life

- A. Luke 5: 1– 11
- 2. 2 Kings 4: 1 – 7

II). Remember These Three Things

- A. God Owns It All. (Psalm 24: 1)
- 2. God Wants to Prosper You. (Psalm 35: 27)
- 3. God is Always with You During Difficult Times. (Hebrews 13: 5)

4) Reasons Why You May Be Having Financial Challenges

- A. Spiritual Warfare (Ephesians 6)
- 2. A Need For Godly Discipline (Hebrews 12: 6)
- 3. God May Be Positioning You To Accomplish The Will of the Lord. (Genesis 50: 20).
- 4. God May Be Developing Your Character. (Romans 5: 3 – 4)
- 5. You May Not Invest the Time, Discipline into Discovering the Real Knowledge and Power of Money. (Hosea 4: 6)