

Kingdom Training Level 5

Financial Faith

1

LESSON 4:

TREASURE IN HEAVEN

“GIVING IS THE ONLY ANTIDOTE TO MATERIALISM”

RANDY ALCORN, THE TREASURE PRINCIPLE

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHURCH OF CHRIST
SPRING 2015

Financial Faith

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SPRING 2015 CALENDAR

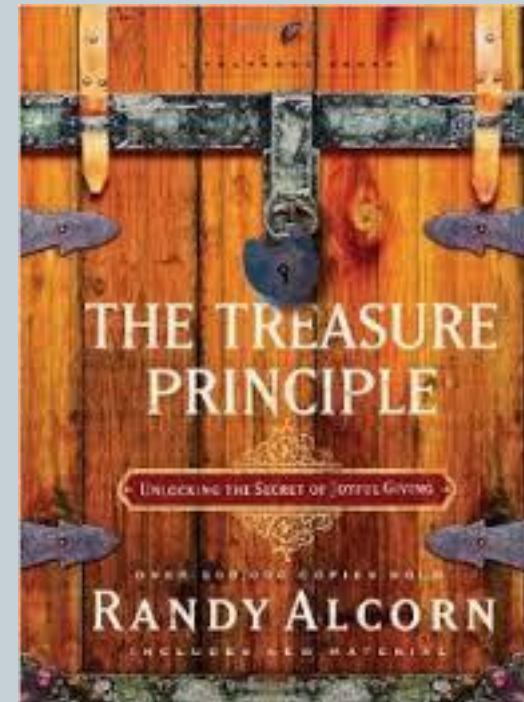
Class 1: March 8	Lord of Heaven & Earth	<i>Psalm 24:1</i>
Class 2: March 15	The Stewards	<i>Matt 25:21</i>
Class 3: March 29	The Debt Elephant	<i>Romans 13:8</i>
Class 4: April 12	Treasure in Heaven	2 Cor. 9:11
Class 5: April 19	Financial Planning	<i>Prov. 27:23</i>
Class 6: April 26	Financial Discipleship	<i>Luke 9:24*</i>

**Take Home Exam!*

Financial Faith: Tools

3

- **Kingdom Training Level 5 Lessons**
- **Financial Faith Bible Studies**
- **“The Treasure Principle” by Randy Alcorn**
 - At the Book Table!
 - \$8 New or \$6 Used!
- **Financial Peace University (FPU)**
 - DaveRamsey.com
- **Email class questions to:**
 - brettkreider@alum.mit.edu



Financial Faith: Review

4

- 1. Psalm 24:1** *The earth is the Lord's and everything in it; the world and all who live in it*
 - 2. Matthew 25:21** *His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness"*
 - 3. Romans 13:8** *Let no debt remain outstanding except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law*
- My Story: Fired Again!**

It's Okay to Want to Be Rich!

5

- **Matthew 6:20**

- *Store up for yourselves **TREASURE** in heaven...*
- Jesus commanded us to store up treasure!

- **Hebrews 11:6**

- *Anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he **REWARDS** those who earnestly seek him*
- Faith includes seeking a reward from God



It's Okay to Want to Be Rich!

6

John 14:1-4 *Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.*

My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.

- Jesus wants us to be motivated by thinking about the palace he's preparing for us



It's Okay to Want to Be Rich!

7

- **Revelation 21**

- Elaborate details about the treasure of heaven
- Jewel-decorated walls
- Gates of pearl and streets of gold

- **Genesis 15:1**

*I am your shield,
your very great reward.*

- God is our ultimate reward
- There is none greater!



It's Okay to Want to Be Rich!

8

- *He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose - Jim Elliott*



Broke Givers Become Rich

9

- **2 Cor 8:9** *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.*
 - God's example: Rich became poor to make us **RICH!**



Broke Givers Become Rich

10

- **Phil 2:8-9** *He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place*
 - Jesus' example: The **KING** became obedient to death
 - He gave everything away and became exalted
 - He traded the crown of heaven for the crown of thorns



Broke Givers Become Rich

11

- **John 3:16** *God so loved the world that he gave...*
 - God is the ultimate **GIVER!**
- **Genesis 1:26** *made in his image...*
 - We are made in the image of the ultimate **GIVER!**
- **Acts 20:35** *more blessed to give than to receive*
 - When we give we are most like **GOD**
 - Giving makes us happy = “blessed”
 - We were created to be givers!



Broke Givers Become Rich

12

2 Cor 8:1-4 Example of the Macedonians

Their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity...

They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us...

See that you also excel in this grace of giving...

- Generosity > Poverty
- God first then others
- Command: Excel in giving!



Broke Givers Become Rich

13

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 *Remember this:*

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written:

*“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor
their righteousness endures forever.”*

Broke Givers Become Rich

14

2 Corinthians 9:10 *Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.*

Memory verse

9:11 *You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*

Broke Givers Become Rich

15

- Generous Giving → Generous Reaping
 - Generosity overcomes material deficiencies
 - Personal conviction/**DECISION** about giving
- God supplies us with everything we need; gifts to share; a treasure of righteousness
 - Out of our overflow, we give
 - Then people see God in us
 - Our generosity with God's gifts brings praise to Him!
- **You have been made rich so that...**
 - **What?**

Treasure your Standard of GIVING not your Standard of Living

16

- **Matthew 6:19** *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...*
 - It is not about our standard of living...
 - Americans are not happier than the poor!



Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

17

- **Matthew 6:19** *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...*
 - The world's version of "rich" and "famous" is no treasure



Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

18

- ***What is the secret?***
- ***Matthew 6:22*** *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*
 - Your **HEART** follows your treasure...



Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

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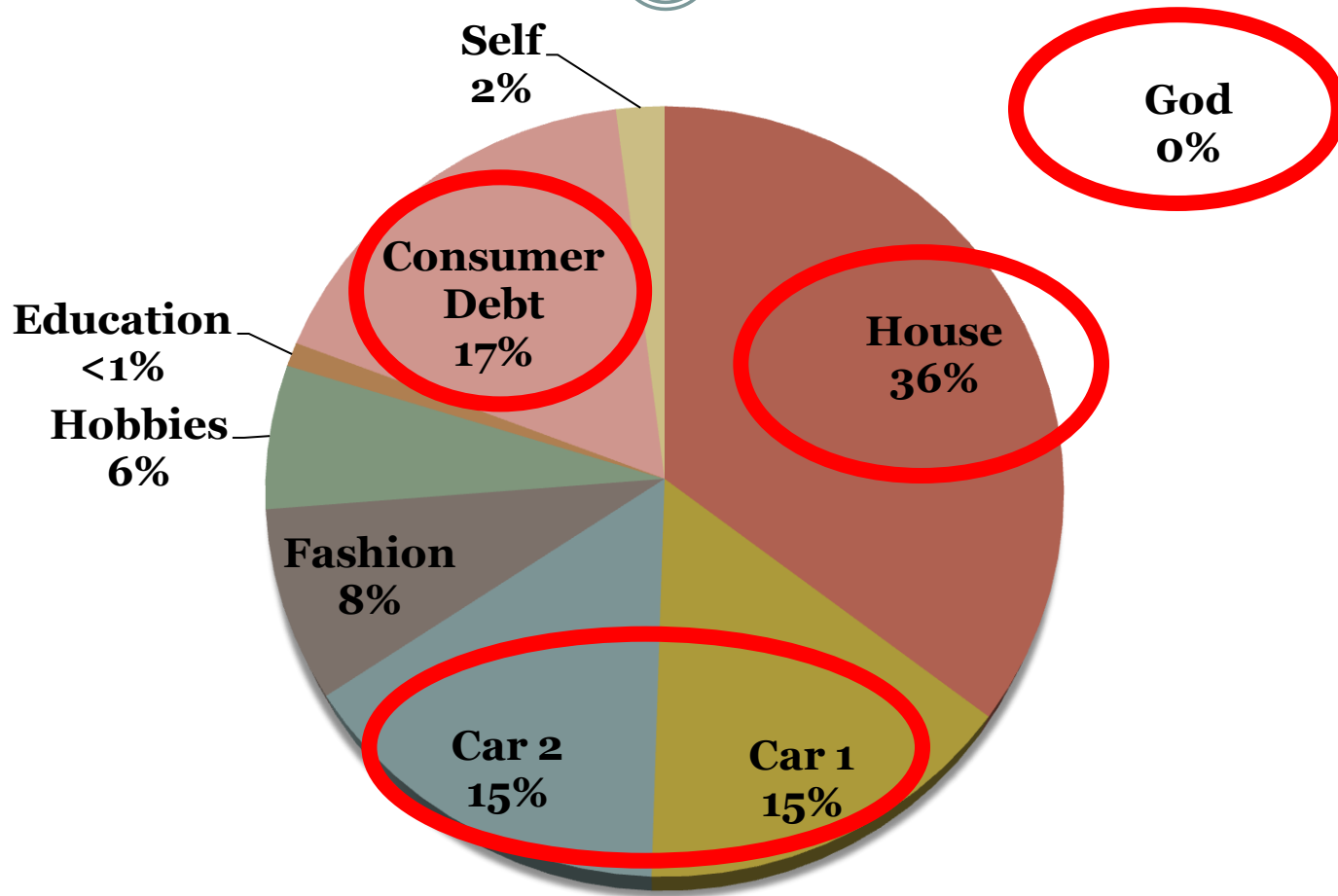
- ***What is the secret?***
- **Matthew 6:22** *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*
 - Heart follows treasure...
 - So does your **SOUL!**

**Giving
Overcomes
Materialism**



Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

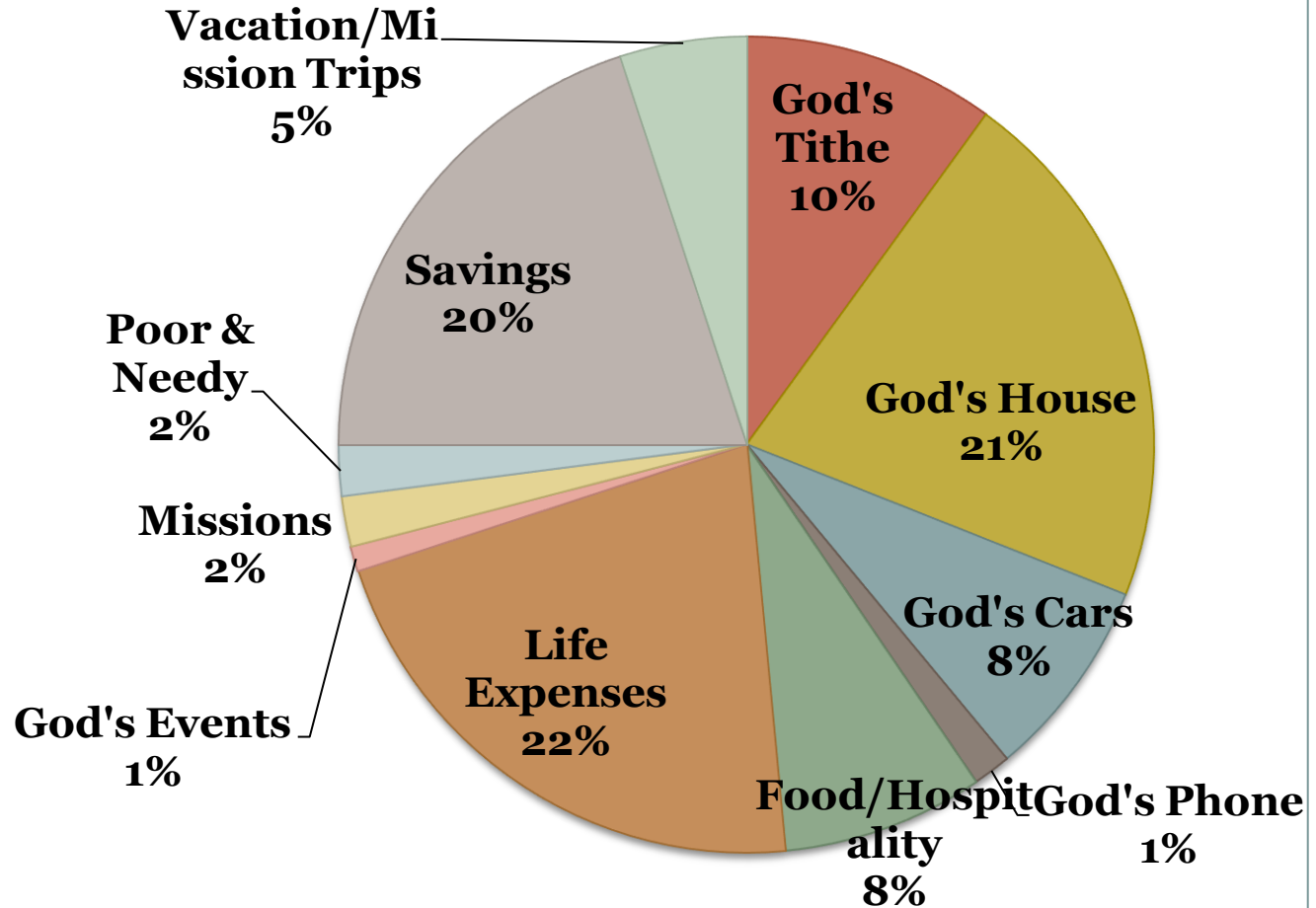
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Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

21

God's Tithe	10%
God's House	21%
God's Cars	8%
God's Phone	1%
Food/Hospitality	8%
Life Expenses	22%
God's Events	1%
Missions	2%
Poor & Needy	2%
Savings	20%
Vacation/Mission Trips	5%



Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

22

- **God entrusts you with resources**
 - Out of that you pay yourself a salary
 - Your job is God's Resource **MANAGER**
 - You disperse God's funds to promote God's purposes
- **Give FIRST back to God – your “firstfruits”**
 - You tithe (10%) to the local church
 - Take care of the local body
 - Pay the full-time staff
 - Support church events

Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

23

- **God's home is a hospitality center**
 - People eat, sleep, and build relationships in your home
 - On their way to **HEAVEN!**
- **God's cars transport people toward heaven**
 - Church, bible studies, camp, teen events...
 - Every other crazy event we Christians sponsor!
- **God provides communications**
 - Phones and computer devices **CONNECT** you to people!

Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

24

- **Practice hospitality out of your food budget**
- **Take care of life's expenses**
 - Insurance, books, and supplies
 - Healthcare, gym, and recreation
 - Entertainment, personal, and discretionary expenses
- **Invest in God's events**
 - Campus and Teen Conferences and Retreats
 - Marrieds and Singles Retreats
 - Regional, National, and World Conferences

Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

25

- **Give generously to the poor, needy, and world missions contributions**
- **Save for the future**
 - Retirement and college
 - Big purchases and emergency fund
- **Your vacation dollars include mission trips**
 - HOPE Youth Corps, HOPE Brigades, Singles Trips!
 - You encourage other churches
 - You serve the poor
 - You connect with others on your way to heaven!

Treasure your Standard of Giving not your Standard of Living

26

- **1 Tim 6:17-19 Command** *those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will **lay up treasure for themselves** as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

Treasure in Heaven

27

- ***Treasure is central to Jesus' message***
- ***God wants us to seek true treasure rather than being tricked into pursuing worldly treasure***
- ***We were created to be like the ultimate giver... this is who we are!***

Treasure in Heaven

28

- ***Giving is the secret to receiving treasure in heaven and the cure for materialism***
- ***God gives in abundance... and plans a life of abundant giving for us!***
- ***God's reward is eternal, indescribable, something he has been preparing for us, and something he wants us to enjoy...***

Treasure in Heaven

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- ***Our Treasure in Heaven is... HIM!***