

Practicing His Presence
A SERMON SERIES ON SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

1. Hero Slide

How people view money and material possessions:

Upper Socio-economic: How can I plan for an amazing future AND have really nice things now.

Middle Socio-economic: How can I plan for an adequate future AND have nicer things than I have now.

Lower Socio-economic: How can I have anything in the future AND at least have the necessities of life now.

2.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

3. 1 Timothy 6:6-10

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6:6-10

4. 1 Timothy 6:6-10

The Love of Money

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Difference Between Needs and Wants:

Needs: Food, Clothing, Shelter

Wants: Everything Else

("Needs" can be satisfied and lead to contentment but "Wants" create a continual desire for better and more and leads to a love of money.)

6. Difference Between Needs...

128 thoughts on contentment

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7. 128_thoughts_on_content...

How do I know if I am content?

- I give God the first tenth of my income (structured giving).
- I spend less than I make.
- I seek to be generous with my money to people/areas of need (spontaneous giving).

8. How do I know if I am cont...



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10. 1 Timothy 6:6-10



Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

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11. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Principles of Tithing

10% is not law but is the biblical guideline

It is given to God's church without control over where it goes

It is regular and consistent (e.g. weekly, monthly)

The primary issue is not affordability but trust (first part of income)

12.



Statistics of Financial Givers at Grace Gathering:

Give little to nothing: 20%

Give something regularly: 80%

Tithe regularly: 35% (6% national average)

(68% of people give online)

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13.



20 The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.

Proverbs 21:20

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14. Proverbs 21:20



21 The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously;

Psalm 37:21


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15. Psalm 37:21



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16. Apple AirPods Commercial




7 But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

2 Corinthians 8:7

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17. 2 Corinthians 8:7



2 KINDS OF BIBLICAL GIVING

	STRUCTURED <small>(1 Corinthians 16:1-2)</small>	SPONTANEOUS <small>(1 Corinthians 9:6-9)</small>
What is it?	Consistent discipline of giving, usually around 10% of income.	Occasional giving to people or opportunities as they come up. (above & beyond structured)
Focus	Trust & releasing control to God.	Sacrifice & Generosity.
Question	God, can I trust that you can do more with 90% than I can if I control 100%?	God, how are you prompting me to give as I seek to be generous with what you've given me?

18. 2 Types of Biblical Giving...



Spiritual Disciplines

The regular and consistent decisions and actions that cultivate one's spiritual relationship with God that are rooted in biblical practice and modeled by Jesus.

Examples are:

Bible Intake	Worship	Giving
Silence/Solitude	Prayer/Fasting	Simplicity

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19. Spiritual Disciplines




Spiritual Disciplines (things to keep in mind)

- o They are actions we make decisions to do
- o They are a "means" and not the "ends"
- o The goal or "end" is to become more like Jesus
- o It is possible to practice the disciplines and not grow spiritually
- o When practiced rightly, we are drawn closer to God
- o Most of them can be practiced both personally and in community

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20. Spiritual Disciplines



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21. How do I know if I am con...



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