

Horizon Pointe Church
May 10, 2015

Gotta Be Strong
Part 4 of 4

Over the past few weeks I have shared with you the idea of being strong. We have used Superman as our icon, and over this time I have shared how to be strong in Spirit, Commitment and Community.

Today, I want to focus on Being Strong in Finances

God's Financial Plan is Built on Eternal Laws. In fact, God is a God of laws. Jesus said He came not to do away with the law but to fulfill it. Why does God give us various laws? To maintain order. I know there are people who believe in the Liberation philosophy of life, that people when placed in various situations will do the right thing. Huh!?

We live with laws. I was driving over the speed limit one day when an officer pulled me over. I was going 50 in a 35, in reality I did not know what the speed limit was, so when the policeman told me, I said, "I am guilty, I did not realize the speed limit and I was definitely going over 35." He then asked me why I was in such a hurry. I was going to a funeral.

Laws are intended to keep us safe. God gave financial laws in scripture to keep us safe monetarily.

If you want to be strong in your finances, keep God's laws.

What are they?

1. It's all Gods

This is the bedrock of a strong financial foundation

If you lose sight of this, you will have financial struggles throughout your life.

One pastor said, your salary is not your source and your savings is not your security

God is the source of all things

Deuteronomy 8:18 "But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today."

God wants you and I to be productive.

Romans 11:36 "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."

2. Honor God First

Whatever I want God to bless, I must put Him first in

- Promise

Proverbs 3:9, 10 "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; **10** then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

- Purpose

Deuteronomy 14:23 "Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the LORD your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the LORD your God always."

- Place

Malachi 3:10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

3. Keep Good Records

Sonya's Big Binder

Proverbs 21:5 "The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."

Proverbs 23:5 "Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle."

There is an eagle on every dollar to remind you it can fly away fast

4. Make a Plan

Proverbs 21:5 ""The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."

Ever have buyers remorse? When you impulsively purchase something to only realize I didn't need that.

Caution: TV infomercials and channels – Sham wow

Law of Budgeting:

- Live on a budget

Proverbs 21:20 "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."

- Pay what you owe

Proverbs 3:27 "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act."

- Make a will

Proverbs 13:22 "A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous."

5. Enjoy What you Have

J Paul Getty saw a painting in a magazine and told his assistant "I want that painting". After a time the assistant came back to tell him you already own it.

Be careful of working to attain more and more and never enjoy what you have.

Ecclesiastes 5:19 "Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work--this is a gift of God."