

Financial Wellbeing



We sing about money in songs, but it would be true to say in our day to day lives money is a taboo subject which we quite often don't even discuss with those closest to us.

In the world 1% of the households own 43% of the world's wealth

In the UK before the pandemic hit

11.5 million people had less than £100 in savings to fall back on

9 million people often borrowed to buy food or pay bills

22 million people said they don't know enough to plan for their retirement

5.3 million children did not get a meaningful financial education

Money, whether a lack of it or even what to spend it on, causes lots of people anxiety and worry.

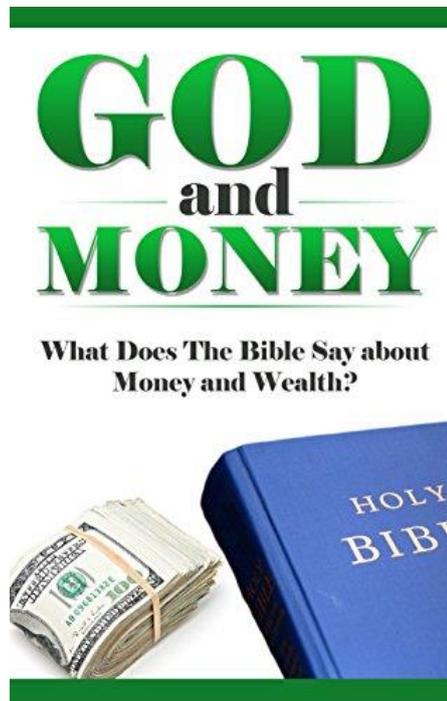
We need to have a better relationship with money for our own wellbeing.

Financial wellbeing is a sense of security and feeling as though you have enough money to meet your needs.



2,000 verses in the Bible are about money

16 of the 38 parables in the New Testament are about money and possessions.



STEWARDSHIP NOT OWNERSHIP

God is the owner of everything. Everything we are and everything we have ultimately come from God.

God is the provider of our needs. Our part is to be stewards of all he has given us.

Knowing this, we can make a fundamental decision to seek his guidance in managing our resources His way.

GODS PLAN

God has a plan for our financial wellbeing and our material needs focussed on Matthew 6: 33 enabling us to get free from the fear of "lack" and the worry about our "physical comforts" resulting in compulsive acquiring of wealth and possessions.

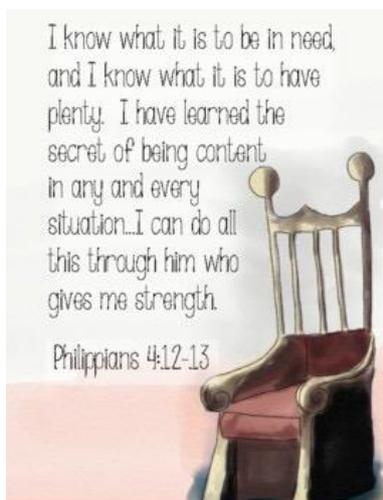
HOW YOU USE YOUR MONEY REFLECTS WHO YOU ARE !!!



SPEND CAREFULLY

The challenge around money is that lockdown and the subsequent cost of living increases has brought different circumstances for many. Who would have believed back in early 2020, that some of the most secure jobs are now in the delivery sector? For some there has been no change and for some life has been very tough.

It is important to learn about contentment, so that we can rein in our spending, with the goal of living within our means. As we do this we can get out of debt and begin to gain an essential margin to save and give.



Control Your Spending

Assess your finances regularly – if you are spending more than your income then you can spot it promptly

Budget – have a clear idea of what you can afford to spend and stick to it.

Try and stay out of debt - financing a lifestyle with debt is a short-term strategy. Know the terms of your debt and the interest and seek early advice from a trusted agency.

Avoid impulse spending – take time to make purchases and prayerfully ask God to guide you. Before deciding about big purchases ask a trusted friend and if in doubt do not buy.



Contact: 01480 418 866

help@huntsmoneyadvice.co.uk



Contact 01480 277 239

admin@gbcfoodbank.org.uk

SAVE WISELY

For some during lockdown they have remained in employment and have seen their expenses significantly reduce due to, perhaps, not having to put petrol in the car or commute via train. They find themselves with more money than they have ever had and do not want to fall into the trap of materialism.

Without fear-based hoarding, we can set aside money for short term emergencies and longer-term crises and opportunities.

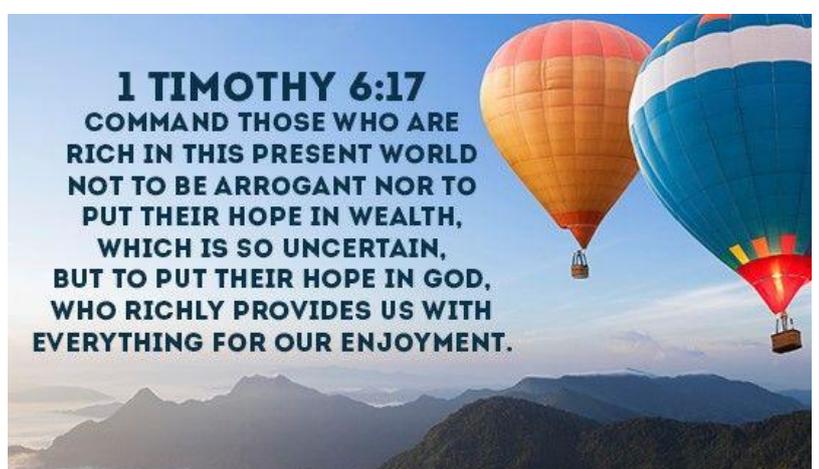
First cultivate the attitude of gratitude.

Then work out what you need to save looking at 5 distinct purposes for savings:

- 1. Emergencies** – a rainy day fund as a buffer for those unforeseen bills.
- 2. Needs** – things wear out and we will need to spend money without putting ourselves back into debt.
- 3. The Future** – a house deposit, a wedding, pensions for when we retire and do not earn as much.
- 4. Wants** – nothing wrong with the odd luxury if we are not borrowing to fund it.
- 5. Giving** – being generous to others helps our wellbeing.

Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow.

- Proverbs 13:11 -



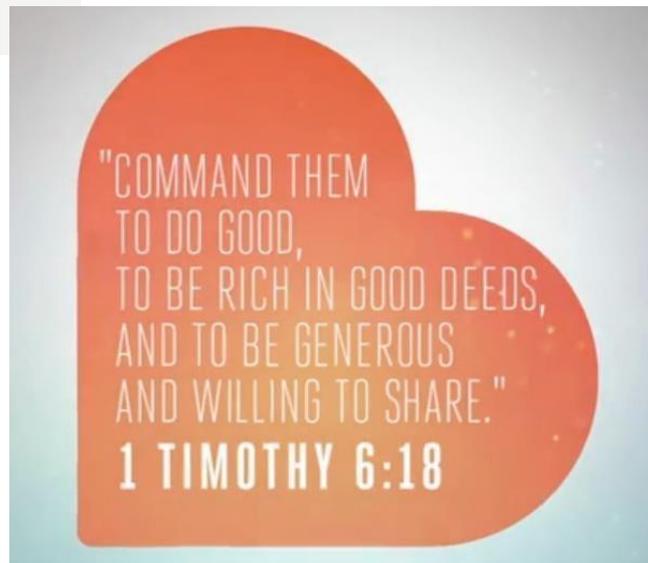
GIVE GENEROUSLY

This is the ultimate goal and is one of the keys to us experiencing God's wellbeing in every area of our lives.

Have you ever experienced God's provision in your life?

When have you experienced generosity from others?

How does being generous affect you, make you feel?



SURRENDER ALL TO GOD

To lead our life this way is the most challenging, most liberating and frees us from the need to be in control trusting that ultimately God will take care of us.

PRAY with these 4 principles in mind:

Be in the will of God – Lead a lifestyle that is in alignment with His Word and following the leading of His Spirit. God can and will supply all our needs, but he also expects us to work diligently and honourably, and a key part of his provision will come to us in this way.

Believe its God’s will to provide for you – We should focus on building our faith on God’s goodness and His ability and willingness to provide. When we give generously God resupplies us so that we can generously bless others and bring glory to Him.

Be specific - There is nothing like praying for a specific financial or material need for yourself or someone and then discovering how God answers this prayer. Why not keep a journal of needs and answers to prayer and see how it works?

Be persistent – We often talk about unanswered prayer because we ask God for something in our prayer, and it does not happen fast enough or in the way we hoped. So, we stop praying for that thing and give up. We forget that unanswered prayer is still heard by God, but his silence is for a purpose, and we will not always understand unless we are persistent in prayer. We need to trust Christ to lead and guide us.

