

**Beyond Blessed - Part 1**  
**"4 Questions for our Finances"**  
**September 27-28th, 2019**

**Intro:**

**- Welcome Locations**

**- ? Have you ever had one of those moments where something happened, & somehow you knew in your heart, nothing would ever be the same again?!?**

- A Promotion**
- An Acceptance Letter**
- An Opportunity**
- A "Yes" from the one you Love!**

**- This is a big weekend in the life of our church & Sarah & I just have this feeling in our hearts that that is what is about to happen to Hundreds & Hundreds of us!!!**

- Over the next 4 weeks, we're going to learn something that we truly believe has the power to Literally change everything!**
  - our homes, our marriages, our work life,**
  - our spiritual life, our kids, and future generations!!!**
  - It's seriously that big!!!**

**- For the next four weeks we are going to be talking about Personal Finances.**

- *"No!!! I liked this church! I brought a friend this week!"***
- *"Here we go again! Churches just want your money!"***
- Or *"Here he goes, Pastors are just out to get our money!"***

**- I get it, "Fear is real" and the unknown can feel scary!**

- But will you open your heart and trust God?**

**- Let me say this: We don't want anything FROM you, we simply want EVERYTHING God has FOR you!!!**

**- Sarah & I & our team are So Tired of hearing stories of how families in our church are struggling & living paycheck to paycheck & dying under the weight of financial pressure & unwise decisions!**

- We LOVE you SO MUCH, we want everything God has for you!!!**
- We know that God's ways for money work!!!**

**- SARAH & I - PERSONAL TESTIMONY AND STORY ILL.**

**- We started living according to God's principles for our finances in our teen years & we can tell you nearly 30 years later that they work!!!**

**- Church: I don't want you to hear ME... I want you to hear FROM GOD because this series is all about our heart. So, we need to pray!**

**PRAY**

**- The Title of this series is: "Beyond Blessed!"**

**- I think there are a lot of us who don't FEEL very blessed!**

**- You've even asked, "God, why don't I have more?" or**

**- "God, why does that person get all the breaks?"**

**- Maybe you feel like there is not a blessing over your life...maybe you feel like a victim.**

**- That's what this series is all about!!!**

**- So this weekend, we are going to start by asking...**

**4 Questions for our Finances!**

**1. What does our Financial Picture look like?**

**- We have to start with Where we are!!!**

**1) Hurricane - Cursed.**

**2) Rainy / Cloudy / Bleak - A Little Blessed / A Little Cursed!**

**3) Average / Normal Day - Blessed!**

**4) Day at the Beach - BEYOND BLESSED!**

**- Blessed to be a Blessing!!!**

**A. We can never get where God wants us to go, until we are willing to admit where we are!**

**- Jimmy Rollins: "You can't Conquer what you won't Confront!"**

**- MIP: ? Are you willing to admit your actual picture???**

**B. Some of us don't know... because we've been pretending like it's good & we're like, "I think it's okay."**

- Church: We have to know!
- Self-awareness is the starting point for all of us.
  - It may be hard to know where you're at, but it will be the beginning of growth in this area.

C. ? Would you believe me if I told you that God wants EVERYONE of us to be living the Day at the Beach Picture???

- Guess what church? It's true!!!

## 2. What price are we willing to pay to change it?

### A. ROBERT MORRIS BOOK.

- There is no better resource that we've found than this book.
- We believe it so much that we are willing to sow the book as a seed into your personal financial picture & future!!!

### B. TALK THROUGH READING PLAN!

- We are going to collectively read it together!!!

### C. SARAH & I HAVE LIVED THESE PRINCIPLES for nearly 30 years!

- Trust us, they work!!!

Proverbs 30:5 "Every word of God is pure: he is a shield to them that put their trust in him."

*"But the biggest starting point question for us is this..."*

## 3. Who do we believe owns it?

Matthew 25:14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

v. 16-17 "The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more.

v. 18-19 "But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

v. 20-21 "The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

v. 22-23 "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

v. 24-25 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

v. 26-27 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

**A. The Master Entrusted the servants with what they had!**

- It was given to them!
- They didn't earn it! And...
- They were accountable for it!

**B. It's interesting to me that the 1st 2 both said, "You entrusted to me..."**

- But the 3rd 1 didn't say that... He went straight to "I..."

**C. MIP: ? What about us?**

- ? Do we believe that God is the one who has given us everything we have & that it is literally on loan to us from Him & 1 day we will give an account???

**D. ROBERT MORRIS' DAUGHTER ILL.**

- Went to college started buying everybody meals & said "Dad, you taught us to be generous!!!"
- He said, "That's not generosity, that's stealing!!! B/c you don't own the account!!!"

**E. MIP: ? Who do WE believe "owns" our account?**

- The Bible makes it clear that God owns it all!!!
- & we are merely Stewards!!!

Ps. 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him."

Ps. 50:10-11 "For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains and the wild beast of the field are Mine."

v. 12 "If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for the world is Mine, and all its fullness."

**F. Church, listen, this is GREAT NEWS for us, b/c if we are the owner, that's a lot of responsibility.**

- We really do have to figure all this out on our own.
- But...

**G. If He's the owner, then He owns the responsibility too!!!**

- We just get to trust our Heavenly Father!!!

*"So the last question then is..."*

**4. Are we willing to do it God's way?**

## **A. LEGO ILL.**

- This kit has 1,106 pieces, an instruction manual with 287 steps & a picture on the box!
- ? How crazy would it be for us to look at the picture on the box & then try to attempt to build it exactly as its supposed to be?!?
  - That's what MOST people do w/ Personal Finances!

**B. They get a picture in their head of what they think Financial "Success" looks like & then spend their entire lives trying to assemble the pieces the way they're supposed to go!**

- And they Fail & Live Frustrated & Discouraged & in Debt & Bankrupt & have Marital Fights about it & never get it right!

**C. But church, there is another way... there IS an Instruction Manual!**

- If we will take it out, work the steps & do what the book says, we can build it EXACTLY as God wants us to!!!

**D. Good News: It's not 287 steps! It's actually pretty simple, (Not easy), but simple!!!**

**E. MIP: ? What if... we trust Him & did it His way?**

- He gave us the instruction manual for how to build something awesome!
- All we have to do is trust His ways!!!

**Challenge: (INVITE WORSHIP TEAMS AT ALL LOCATIONS)**

**- Nobody has laid it out better than the ROBERT MORRIS BOOK!**

- We have WORKBOOKS for sale in our Resource Center!
- Get an accountability partner and go through this with them.
- Get the workbook and every week go over this with our spouse.
  - The unity I believe this can bring in marriage is a "beyond blessed" kind of unity.

**- Reading Plan again!!!**

- Will you commit to the Reading Plan???
- ? What price are you willing to pay???

**- Imagine 365 days from today, your financial picture being completely different than it is today!!!**

**- It's possible!**

**SEE A VICTORY at the End!!!**

**- (Bridge... You take what the enemy meant for evil & turn it for good!)**

**- Sing it in faith over your Financial Picture!**