

Treasure Principle, Questions from Chapters 5-6

1. How did these two chapters encourage you? How did they challenge you?

2. On page 48, Randy Alcorn says: *There are many roadblocks to giving: unbelief, insecurity, pride, idolatry, desire for power and control. The raging current of our culture – and often our churches – makes it hard to swim upstream. It's considered 'normal' to keep far more than we give. But I'm convinced that the greater deterrent to giving is this: the illusion that earth is our home.*
 - i. What do the following passages tell us about this reality?
 1. Philippians 3:20-21

 2. Hebrews 11:13-16

3. [From page 57] Choose one of Solomon's statements that has been especially evident in your experience. How does it help explain the emptiness of materialism?

4. On the bottom of page 65, Alcorn says: *Tithing isn't the ceiling of giving; it's the floor. It's not the finish line of giving; it's the starting blocks. Tithes can launch us into the mind-set, skills, and habits of grace giving.*
 - i. As you contemplate Alcorn's words in these chapters as well as scripture passages mentioned, what is God telling you about your giving?

5. On the bottom of page 67, Alcorn says: *Ironically, many people suppose they can't afford to give precisely because they're not giving, and therefore not experiencing God's blessing.*
 - i. How does Haggai 1:6 and 1:9 challenge us to give when we don't think we can?

6. From page 75 (regarding inheritance), Alcorn says: *Let God decide how much to provide for your adult children. Once they're on their own, the money you've generated under God's provision doesn't belong to your children - it belongs to Him, and you are His appointed money manager. If your money manager died what would you think if he left all your money to his children?*
 - i. In chapter 3, we read how we are stewards, not owners. How does this truth help us as we think about what and how much to leave our children?

7. On page 79, Alcorn gives the analogy of a FedEx guy who keeps the package that does not belong to him. Then he says at the bottom of the page: *Why does God give some of his children more than they need and others less than they need?*
 - i. How does 2 Corinthians 8:14-15 and 9:10-11 answer that question?

8. In light of these two chapters, how do you feel God is calling you to respond? How can we pray for your obedience in this area?