

**Bringing truth to LIFE-****Wisdom for your life this week.**

It's abnormal today to live within your means, but God calls us to do just that. True financial freedom begins when we develop the unnatural habits of budgeting and spending wisely!

All of our focus in this study has been on the wisdom that God gave to Solomon about the consequences of bad or good habits with money. In this last section of the lesson we will endeavor to put the wisdom of these lessons into practice our own financial habits.

- a. In Proverbs 6:6 Solomon describes a characteristic of the people he wants to instruct. In what areas of your financial life are you in danger of being "lazy"?

What thoughts in your mind are influencing this laziness?

- b. Ask God to help you develop self-control... What new daily habit would you like to develop to find freedom and stability in your financial plan?
- **Know where it goes.** Develop and abide by a God-honoring Budget.
  - **Learn to say "No".** Begin a plan to pay down debt.
  - **Save, so it grows.** Start saving a little bit from each paycheck.
- c. Share with your life group how you plan to put action to what God is teaching you in this lesson series. Tell each other something that you will do this week to start a good habit in your financial life. Pray for each other through the week.

**Pray for Each Other**     *"Lord, help us break free from these bad habits. We give you first place of importance in our life. Increase our faith in your promises and our wise management of your financial provision to us."*

**Life Group Sermon Study**

Week of 11/11/18



**Big Idea:** If our guide for our view of money is from the world... our finances will get out of control so fast ... especially heading into the Christmas season. The good news is we can learn how to get out of financial bondage. Unleashed will help us avoid common financial pitfalls, experience financial freedom, and embrace a life of joyful generosity.

**UPSIDE DOWN! Joyful Generosity****Week #2****Unnatural: The Buck Starts Here!** Selected Scriptures from Proverbs

**Proverbs 6:6-8**     <sup>6</sup> "Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise. <sup>7</sup> Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, <sup>8</sup> they labor hard all summer gathering food for the winter." (NLT)

**Proverbs 13:7, 11**     <sup>7</sup> "Some who are poor pretend to be rich; others who are rich pretend to be poor. .... Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time." (NLT)

**Proverbs 21:5-6, 20**     <sup>5</sup> "Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty. Wealth created by a lying tongue is a vanishing mist and a deathly trap. ... <sup>20</sup> The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get." (NLT)

**Proverbs 25:28**     <sup>28</sup> "A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls." (NLT)

**Capture our Attention-**

- a. Debt can be suffocating to your sense of peace. Who taught you the dangers of debt? How well did you receive their teaching?
  
- b. Share your Take-A-Way from last Sunday's sermon. What insight did God use to capture your attention? How are you trying to put that insight into practice in your daily life?

**Enlighten our Mind- Study the Word of God.**

1. The Holy Spirit prompted Solomon to write a majority of the book of proverbs. The Holy Spirit is also probably preparing a specific part of this lesson to be the most helpful to your current life situation. In light of that truth, which phrase or truth from the proverbs we read seems to resonate with you? Write it in your own words in the space provided here...

Why do you think God drew your attention to this section of the scripture?

2. Review Proverbs 6:6-8. What are some lessons that Solomon advises humans to learn from ants? List a couple that you notice from these three verses.

How would you describe life style and habits of "lazybones"?

3. The book of Proverbs is a treasure chest of practical and discerning wisdom. List the bad habits and **good habits** you see identified in the verses of Proverbs 13:7, 11 & Proverbs 21:5-6, and 20.

Bad habits

**Good habits**

4. What are the thoughts or beliefs that birth these bad and **good** habits?

How does your faith in Jesus help you resist the thoughts that produce bad financial habits? How does your faith help you strengthen the thoughts that produce good financial habits?

What is one thought/habit that you need to address?

5. In ancient times strong walls were very important. During Solomon's reign as king built walls of protection around many cities. How does a lack of self-control in your finances make you like an ancient city with broken-down walls?