

Shiny Gods

Lesson 2: Money, Work, and Debt

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION:

Deuteronomy 28:12-14 – Blessings for obedience in the Land of Promise; blessings contingent on them not following after or serving other gods.

- “God promised that they would not be buried under the burden of financial worries if they were obedient. Their financial freedom would come as a result of not following other gods or giving their energy and focus to them.”
- The **god of consumerism** has caused many Americans to be in financial bondage making it difficult or even impossible to worship God rightly in their giving.
- “How much is enough”

Matthew 16:26 – What does it profit us to gain the whole world and lose our soul

It is critical that we have a right understanding and attitude about money, work and debt

VIDEO PRESENTATION:

Session 2: Money, Work, and Debt (10:20)

GROUP DISCUSSION:

- **God’s means of provision for financial freedom is work.** Work is a gift from God though we don’t always see it that way. **Genesis 2:15**
 - “We work to serve God’s creation.”
 - “We don’t work primarily for the income. We’re in this for the outcome.”
- **2 Thess 3:10** – Will not work, shall not eat – “entitlement mentality”
- God’s means of provision is through our work but we must not lose sight of the true source of our provision---God **Deut. 8:17-18**
- **2 Dangers of an improper attitude about work:** 1. Minimizing work (entitlement mentality); 2. Worshiping work (placing work above God)
- It’s important in our work never to compromise our integrity. *How might we compromise our integrity in our work?*
- **“If we get up every day to honor God and to serve people through or work then the day will bring us joy.”**
- **DEBT IS NOT HOW GOD PROVIDES.** Debt creates bondage. Prov. 22:7
 - We work to pay for the past rather than invest in the future.
- No matter what our debt situation might be there is always hope.
- **2 kinds of debt:** 1. **Consumer** debt - debt which is used to fund consumption rather than investment. It includes debts incurred on purchase of goods that are consumable and/or do not appreciate. 2. **Investment** debt - debt incurred to acquire or carry assets that may produce income.
- *“It’s always better to live more simply than to go into debt. When we live more simply, we help other people simply live.”*
- When we live more simply we will be better able to honor God by investing in the kingdom.