

**FOUR STEWARDSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS
FOR ADULTS**

Writer:
Rick Ellison
State Missionary
Alabama Baptist Convention
State Board of Missions

FOUR SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL
LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF SOLOMON

BEING RICH TOWARDS GOD

40 SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES FOR LIFE MANAGEMENT

ADULT BIBLE STUDY LESSON PLANS WITH STUDENT LEARNING GUIDES

**RICK ELLISON
OFFICE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
ALABAMA BAPTIST CONVENTION
STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS**

GOD IS A GIVER – SO SHOULD WE

BEING RICH TOWARDS GOD

BY

RICK ELLISON

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

This resource contains four Sunday School lessons. These lessons can be used as a series or each as a stand-alone Bible study. The Learners' Guide is provided first. Make as many copies as needed for your church or the local association. The Teachers' Guide follows with a plan for teaching adults. Teachers should read the Learners' Guide first and then use the Teachers' Guide to prepare.

BEING RICH TOWARDS GOD

40 SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES FOR LIFE MANAGEMENT

BIBLE STUDY #1

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 5:10-20

KEY QUESTION: WHAT ARE SOME TRUTHS FROM GOD'S WORD THAT WILL HELP ME WITH WEALTH MANAGEMENT?

BIBLE STUDY #2

MANAGING TIME – FAMILY – WORK AND CHRISTIAN SERVICE

SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 2:4-11, 2:18-26

KEY QUESTION: HOW DO I BALANCE MY TIME BETWEEN FAMILY, WORK AND CHRISTIAN SERVICE?

BIBLE STUDY #3

ENTERTAINMENT – PLEASURE AND THE JOY OF GIVING AND SERVING

SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 2:4-11

KEY QUESTION: HOW DO I BALANCE ENTERTAINMENT, PLEASURE AND THE JOY OF GIVING AND SERVING GOD IN MY LIFE?

BIBLE STUDY #4

BECOMING RICH BY GIVING

SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 11:1-2

KEY QUESTION: HOW DO I BECOME RICH BY GIVING?

LESSON 1

Learners' Guide

Being Rich Towards God

40 Spiritual Principles For Life Management

—Rick Ellison—

Wealth Management

It is easier to become a millionaire today than ever before in history. As a matter of fact, the number of people becoming millionaires is increasing at an astonishing rate. The number of millionaires is not only growing in the United States but around the world. It is a global phenomenon.

While the number of the rich increase there is also another phenomenon to consider. Bankruptcy is also growing at an astonishing rate. It has become woven into the fabric of our culture. High consumer debt in conjunction with the loss of a job, illness, divorce or other unexpected circumstances has made financial crises a reality. Add to these circumstances errors in money management and lifestyle mistakes and there are problems leading to financial distress. The United States Congress in recent years has recognized and has implemented legislation to address the impact of bankruptcies in America.

Whatever our financial status God has entrusted to each of us a certain amount of wealth to manage. God has a spiritual purpose in the use of our wealth. How will we manage what God has given us?

As we study the Bible we can learn much wisdom from a man in the Old Testament named Solomon. Solomon was the last king to reign over a united Israel. He was the son of David and Bathsheba. The book of II Samuel reveals that when Solomon was born, God loved him and so he was called Jedidiah, which means “beloved by the Lord”.

Solomon was a very wise and brilliant man. His wisdom was greater than the wise men of his day and he was an expert in many subjects. He was also a great writer composing over a thousand songs and over three thousand proverbs. Solomon's wealth and fame spread through the nations.

READ ABOUT SOLOMON'S WEALTH

I KINGS 10:14-29

What are some things that you notice about Solomon's wealth?

Despite all of Solomon's riches he struggled with the use of his wealth. As a matter of fact, his wealth did not satisfy him.

READ ECCLESIASTES 5:10-20

Solomon understood that we can't keep our wealth forever (Ecclesiastes 2:18). He understood that our finances can cause us to worry (Ecclesiastes 2:22-23). It is certainly possible for us to have a good job, income, and nice house but no peace of mind when it comes to our finances.

WHAT ARE SOME SPIRITUAL TRUTHS FROM GOD'S WORD THAT WILL HELP US WITH WEALTH MANAGEMENT?

1. Don't be a slave to buying things.
Psalm 49:17-20
2. Live within your income.
Matthew 6:21
3. Don't become a slave to debt. Use debt wisely.
II Kings 4:1-7
4. Save money.
Psalm 144:13-15
5. Be a wise and thrifty shopper.
Proverbs 31:16-21
6. Communicate and be in agreement with your spouse about spending.
Ephesians 5:33
7. Teach your children and be a positive example about the use of wealth.
Proverbs 22:6
8. Manage your money and check book well.
II Timothy 6:17-19
9. Give of your tithes and offerings through the local church in obedience to Christ.
Malachi 3:8-10
10. Give generously to missions to win our world to Christ and fulfill the Great Commission.
Matthew 28:19-20
I Corinthians 16:1-4

LESSON 1

Teachers' Guide

40 Spiritual Principles For Life Management

—Rick Ellison—

Wealth Management

(Begin with prayer)

CREATING A CLIMATE FOR LEARNING

Begin the Bible study by sharing how the number of millionaires and billionaires are growing in the world. Review the information in the Learners' Guide. You may want to do further research on how the numbers of wealthy people are growing in the United States and around the world by using the internet or other research.

You may also want to share that at the same time many people in our country are losing their wealth due to circumstances stated in the Learners' Guide.

PLEASE BE DIPLOMATIC BECAUSE SOME MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED THE PAIN OF BANKRUPTCY.

NOTE: FINANCIAL CRISES COULD HAPPEN TO ANY OF US.

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION. (A large class may break into groups to discuss the following question and report back to the large group.)

What is the most difficult thing that people encounter about managing finances or wealth?

BIBLE BACKGROUND

Review the background information about Solomon in the Learners' Guide. You may want to add further information about Solomon.

NOTICE SOLOMON'S WEALTH – READ I KINGS 10:14-29.

QUESTION: What are some things that you notice about Solomon's wealth?

As rich as Solomon was his wealth did not satisfy him.

READ ECCLECIASTES 5:10-20.

QUESTION: Why was Solomon not satisfied with his wealth?

APPLICATION

JESUS TALKED ABOUT MONEY MORE THAN ANY OTHER SUBJECT IN THE BIBLE.

QUESTION: What are some truths from God's word that will help us with wealth management?