

Theme: YOUR FAITH AND YOUR FINANCES—“Managing Your Life Resources” (Part 2)

Text: (Various) but see also 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Rev. Dominic Tommy

Introduction

A man who prayed repeatedly to God for help to take his wealth for Heaven.

How do we manage our wealth in a way that glorifies God?

And how can we manage our finances so that it may produce long-term support?

I. Celebrate Your Possessions

Moses makes this point evidently clear to the Israelites in **Deuteronomy 8:18** “ You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day..

b) Apostle Paul to Corinthians

II. Preserve Your Possessions; do not waste your money or your resources

Here are three major ways people waste money:

- 1. Interest
- 2. Expenses
- 3. Boundaries

III. Be (satisfied) Content with What You Have

Let me point out that God teaches us to be content:

"Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil" ([Prov. 15:16](#)).

"Be content with your pay" ([Luke 3:14](#)).

"I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances" ([Phil. 4:11](#)).

"Godliness with contentment is great gain" ([1 Tim. 6:6](#)).

"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have" (**Heb. 13:5-6**). Keep your life free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” ([Heb. 13:5-6](#)).

Understanding Contentment

Contentment does not mean to maintain the status quo, to settle for second best, or to turn down opportunities to better ourselves and our lifestyles. Such ideas of contentment are far from the biblical concept. To the contrary, we are called to press on, to rise up to our potential, and to accomplish great things for the glory of God.

However, we are to keep our ambitions in check as we experience a sense of fulfillment, peace, and joy regardless of our situation in life.

Welcome to



Central Church

Our Mission

Central United Methodist Church Glorifies God through the Work of Ministry and the Making of Disciples of Jesus Christ.

912 Fourth Ave., PO Box 485, Lake Odessa, MI 48849
www.centralchurch-lakeo.org (616) 374-8861

Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor
pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Celebration Service

November 19, 2017

24th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign, pass, and return red friendship pads in each pew at this time.
Also prepare Prayer Request Sheets during this time.*

INTROIT "We Gather Together" vs 1 Hymnal 131

*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)

O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, You, O LORD, you know it altogether.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

*OPENING HYMN "God Will Take Care of You" Hymnal 130

Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets

INVOCATION PRAYER (in unison) (be seated)

O Lord, our God, we bless you for your creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, and above all for your endless love in redeeming the world through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Thank you for means of grace, and for the glorious hope of the saints.

This day, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies.

With thankful hearts, we show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but also in our lives as we give up ourselves for your service. Teach us to walk before you in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who reigns, and lives with you and the Holy Spirit in honor and glory through all ages. Amen

ANTHEM "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" Chancel Choir

Lani Smith

SHARING PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus be with You!

And Also with You!

(Please take this time to greet one another in the Name of Christ by saying, "Peace be with you" and your neighbor says "And also with you")

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Children age 4 & under are welcome to leave for the nursery downstairs after the *Children's Moment*.

STEWARDSHIP PRESENTATION Endowments, Memorial and Stewardship Planning - Mike McCartney, Chair

INVITATION FOR OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF GIFTS

Dear Lord, we thank you for blessings known and unknown. Open our hearts to know and understand the abundance of gifts that come through you alone. Receive the tithes and offerings of your children. Through the use of these gifts, give us a glimpse of a united kingdom of God where no one will be in want, but all will live in the fullness of your provisions. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS, PRAISES, PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER

Please stand for the reading of God's word, as you are able.

*SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 9:6-14 Pew Bible NT173

SERMON: "YOUR FAITH AND YOUR FINANCES" Rev. Dominic Tommy
"Managing Your Life and Resources" (Part II)

*CLOSING HYMN: "Freely, Freely" Hymnal 389

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE Bind Us Together (*Bob Gillman*) TFWS 2226

*Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.*

*Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together,
Bind us together with love.*

*There is only one God, There is only one King;
There is only one Body, That is why we sing:*

POSTLUDE

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

We would like to have nursery care available for families with young children for the Christmas Eve service. If this is something that you would be willing to help with, please contact Penny Thelen (616-374-8255) or the church office.

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Lakewood Community Council Christmas Baskets will be packed Dec. 5-8 with delivery on Dec. 9. Our assigned gifts are for girls ages 8, 9, or 15. Gift tags are available in the Fellowship Hall. Gifts should be wrapped and tagged with the appropriate age. *This year we are also asking for non-perishable packaged food because of a decline in donations through the schools.* Donations of gifts, hats, socks (especially socks—in all sizes), and mittens can be left in the Fellowship Hall any time before December 5. Financial contributions can be marked “Christmas Baskets” in the Missions section of your offering envelopes or a separate envelope. Kay Barcroft or Alan Goodemoot can answer any questions you may have. The families who receive these gifts are blessed, and those who help with this project feel blessed as well. Your support of this project is very much appreciated!

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The date has been set for **"Dinners for Eight"** for Sunday, December 3, at 3:00 p.m. We have four hosts/hostesses who will open their homes and provide the meat and potatoes. Those of you who have signed up as guests will be contacted by a host/hostess to coordinate food. There is still room available if you would like to join in the dinner. See Andrea Gentner (616-374-7126).

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Additional Stewardship pledge cards are available on ushers' tables. You will also find newsletters and prayer calendars for November, and new issues of Our Daily Bread.

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"Hanging of the Greens" will be Sunday, November 26, following coffee hour. This is a fun time to work together decorating the building for the Advent and Christmas season. Please stay if you are able. Many hands make light work. There is a signup sheet for lunch items. Even if you aren't able to help with the decorating, perhaps you could supply a lunch item. Children are welcome, too, if accompanied by their adult.

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MINISTER: Every Member of This Church
PASTOR: Rev. Dominic Tommy
SECRETARY: Kim Stoepker
ORGANIST: Marilyn Noffke
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Jackie Spagnuolo
CUSTODIANS: Mike McCartney / Rolando Varela
TODAY'S SERVICE:

Worship Assistant

Karl Klynstra

Audio/Visual

Today: Tony Barcroft / Shelly Reiser
Next Sunday: Same

Coffee Fellowship

Today: Open
Next Sunday: Pastor Dominic & Comfort Tommy / Marilyn Noffke

Greeters

Today: Virginia Rayner/Carolyn Jackson/John Catt/Christy Erickson
Next Sunday: Same

Nursery

Today: Andrea Gentner / Karen Avery
Next Sunday: Judy Freidhoff / Terri Catt

Ushers

Today: Shane McNeill / Sam McNeill
Next Sunday: Sam McNeill / George McNeill

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**In case of a pastoral emergency, please call
Pastor Dominic at the parsonage (374-8294) or on his cell
(269-941-3787) or the Church Office during office hours.**

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Ellwood Perry Unspokens	Dylan	A friend
<u>Continued in Prayer</u>		
Sgt. Branden Curtis	Karl Klynstra	Gary Smith
Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston	Toni Robinson	Ed Hilliker
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr	Dale Patterson	Hank Minenna
1SG Nicholas Ludema	Phylis Armstrong	Susan Steele
PFC Jason Hilley	Pam Coleman	Sharon Brink
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow	Terena Galaviz	Ross McDowell
Brian Rayner	Travis Tucker and family	Judi Brandon
Kim Seese	Patti Coorman	Armrose LaBine
<u>Our Special Friends</u>		
Leah Abbott	Margot Bailey	Ada Dennie
Lois Goodemoot	Joanne McDaniels	Phil Shetterly
Ed Reiser	Helen Miller	Toni Robinson

Our Partners In Ministry

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa
 Bath United Methodist Church, Bath
 Pathway Wesleyan Church, Lake Odessa

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

11/19 Barb Hall
 11/21 Jane Lawther
 11/23 Art Wagner
 Dick Winkler

Christmas 'Round the Town
 Friday, November 24 and Saturday, November 25
 Fellowship Hall will be full of vendors selling their wares.
 The UMW is hosting the event and will be selling
 caramel corn – make sure you stop in and check it out!

EVENTS

Mon 11/20	UMW Unit General Meeting – Lounge Finance Committee – Front Room A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	1:30 pm 6 pm 7 pm
Wed 11/22	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i> Community Thanksgiving Service – 1 st Congregational Church <i>No Choir Rehearsal</i>	7 pm
Thu 11/23	<i>Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed</i> <i>No Respite Care or Souper Thursday Community Dinner</i>	
Fri 11/24	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i> Christmas 'Round the Town – Fellowship Hall	9 am-6 pm
Sat 11/25	Christmas 'Round the Town – Fellowship Hall	9 am-3 pm
Sun 11/26	Sunday School – classrooms Worship Service – <i>Stewardship Sunday</i>	9:30-10:15 am 10:30 am
Mon 11/27	AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm
Tue 11/28	Education Committee – Front Room	7 pm
Wed 11/29	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	7 pm
Thu 11/30	Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	1:30 pm 4:30-6 pm
Fri 12/1	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 12/3	Sunday School – classrooms Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i> Dinners for 8	9:30-10:15 am 10:30 am 3 pm
Mon 12/4	Endowment/Memorial/Planned Giving Committee – Front Room A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	6 pm 7 pm
Tues 12/5	Fresh Food Distribution – Back parking lot Christmas Baskets Prep – Fellowship Hall	2 pm 7-9 pm
Wed 12/6	Christmas Baskets Prep – Fellowship Hall Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary	9 am – 2:30 pm 7 pm

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A **Community Thanksgiving Service** will be held this Wednesday, November 22 at 7 pm at the First Congregational Church. Our Central Church Chancel Choir will be participating in the service as well as our organist, Marilyn Noffke. All are welcome!

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