

“Picked Pockets: Instilling Biblical Principles of Finances in Hard Times”

by Pastor Rick McGowan

I. Ownership

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein...” (Jeremiah 6:16)

“For the earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof.” (I Cor. 10:26)

“...all things were created by him, and for him:” (Colossians 1:16)

“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:” (Colossians 2:6)

[I know you know this...it’s nothing new...nothing earth-shattering...but... **THIS MINISTRY THAT YOU “HAVE,” BELONGS TO GOD!!!!**]

God uses money and finances for a:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

II. Stewardship

James Lawless said, “Stewardship is more than the management of things. It is the refusal to let things manage us.”

A. _____ -- **BUDGET...BUDGET...BUDGET!!!!**

[Schools don’t plan to fail...they fail to plan!]

God reminds us in Proverbs 27:24 that, “...riches are not forever...”

(Sometimes teachers and staff members act as if they are forever!)

Sometimes pastors are guilty of wrong spending:

- “Status-seeking spending” – _____
- “Special-interest spending” – _____
- “Senseless spending” – _____

B. _____

Pastor, you need to be accountable to someone other than God in the area of finances...and it shouldn't be another _____!

“Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.”
(Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10)

Quit carrying that burden _____!!!!

III. Discipleship

Christian schools are all about _____...but what are we _____ our people about trusting God???

We need to be _____ them that God is in control and that the future is as bright as the promises of God!

Our God doesn't operate according to the Dow Jones, the Standard and Poors, or the Nasdaq...or even a liberal Congress trying to give away 700 billion dollars of our tax money!

We need to go out on a _____!!!!

