

Financial and spiritual burdens weigh us down. They can hold us back from being a blessing and experiencing blessing.

DEBT: Holds Us Back from Blessing Others

1. Debt weighs you down and holds you back

Proverbs 22:7 – “The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.”

2. Don't chain yourself to another's debt

Proverbs 22:26-27 – “Do not be one who shakes hands in pledge or puts up security for debts; if you lack the means to pay, your very bed will be snatched from under you.”

3. Repaying your debt reflects your integrity

Romans 13:7-8 – “Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.”

NEXT STEP: For detailed articles and podcasts about debt, please text “debt” to (951)425-4425.

NEXT STEP: Create a monthly budget with a weekly review meeting. Text “ramsey” to (951)425-4425 for a tool!

BITTERNESS: Holds Us Back from God's Blessing

1. Bitterness poisons you, not them

Hebrews 12:14-15 – “Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.”

2. Uproot bitterness before it takes over

Ephesians 4:31 – “Get rid of all bitterness, rage & anger, brawling & slander, along with every form of malice.”

2 Corinthians 10:5 – “...we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

Matthew 6:12 – “And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

3. Fill the empty space with grace

Ephesians 4:32a – “Be kind and compassionate to one another...”

Luke 6:27-28 – “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray...”

Romans 12:20 – “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink...”

4. Forgive those who made us bitter

Ephesians 4:32b – “...forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Colossians 1:21 – “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil...”

Luke 23:34 – “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing...”

Colossians 2:13-14 – “He forgave us all our sins...he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.”

Isaiah 53:5 – “But he was pierced for our transgressions...and by his wounds we are healed.”

Matthew 6:14-15 – “...if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

NEXT STEP: Are you honestly still bitter towards someone (or God?) Come forward for prayer after service.