

DON'T COUNT YOUR MONEY, MAKE YOUR MONEY COUNT!

Dear Friend:

Perspective governs everything in life. Consider the story of a blind man who had never encountered an elephant before, and then one day he did and wasn't told what it was. He put his arms around one of the animal's massive legs and said: "The bark is very rough". He felt the tusk and said: "The branches are very smooth and strong". Finally, he handled the giant ear and remarked: "The elephant's leaves are huge and thick." In conclusion he declared: "The elephant is one of the world's most unusual trees". Perspective governs our life.

Don't laugh at the blind man's misinterpretation, let's remember that we too can get things wrong at times. Even those of us who have learned that God owns everything often act as if He really doesn't. You see, the essence of life is not ownership but stewardship. Stewardship is "The faithful management of all that God entrusts to us". Everything we have in our life (including our life) is on loan from God.

The stewardship mindset is at odds with the prevailing North American attitude of ownership. We think in terms of our possessions, our house, our abilities, our car, our achievements. The reality is that we do not own any of these because God can take them away at any moment. God teaches in the scriptures many, many stewardship principles, let me briefly share three. First, we must think of ourselves as the manager of a trust. God himself entrusts everything to us; he wants us to use what we have to bring Him glory. Second principle: each day is an opportunity to use our time for his service with His resources. Third principle: think of money as a means to an end, not an end in itself. If money is an end, we will never feel like we have enough, ever. but IF we see money as a means to an end, (glorify God), using money FOR Him will bring us joy.

Do you sit around and count your money, or do you make your money count for God? One very important way to make your money count is to participate in the Building Fund Commitment this Sunday. It will bring joy. Our goal for 2025 is \$29,204. Pray and be prepared to participate this Sunday.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Dick Fisher, Lisa Rose, Praise: Pam Hall is doing well after toe surgery and amputation.

Event: This Sunday, Building Fund Commitment Sunday, goal \$29,204. If you can't be here Sunday, we will receive commitments over the next few weeks. Commitment cards will be available on the back table. Please place in offering plate. Or you can send-in notice of your commitment via U.S. Mail