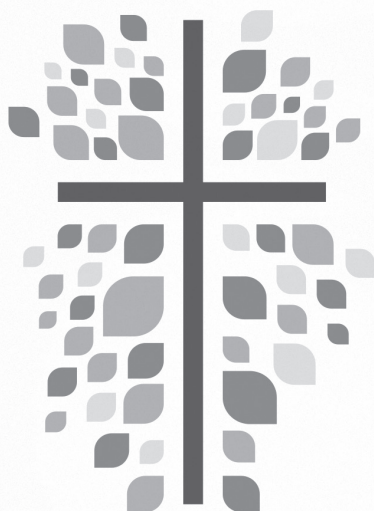


FINANCIAL HOPE

Find Freedom in Your Finances
Through God's Word



MICHAEL BLUE

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INSTITUTE
For Financial Planning

Pursuing Faith in My Finances

HEBREWS 11:6

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him,
for whoever would draw near to God must believe that
He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.*

Faith bridges our current reality and future hopes. It is the key to drawing closer to God and becoming the person He has made us to be. To live by faith requires trusting someone else. And trust is something many of us don't want to give away.

Dan had a hard time with trust. He worked in full-time ministry and longed to live by faith. His job required him to raise support, and he believed that God did not want him asking for money. This seeming contradiction provided ample opportunity for Dan to learn trust.

One year, a week before Christmas, Dan was out of money. When he told his wife that there would be no Christmas presents for their three young boys, she was heartbroken. Devastated, Dan marched to his office and began composing letters asking for money. If God wasn't going to come through, then Dan wasn't going to let his family down. In this moment, Dan felt the conviction of the Holy Spirit asking him if he wanted to do life his way or God's way. All he needed was a little faith.

God was giving Dan an opportunity to learn faith and trust. What would you have done?

Dan tore up his newly written letters and waited. That month Dan and his family saw God provide more financial support than they had ever received. Dan did not know what would happen when he tore up his letters, but he knew in whom he was placing his trust.

Exercising faith is never easy. If it was, it wouldn't be called faith. Faith stretches us and molds us into people who trust God implicitly. Without faith, we cannot please God. Without trust, we cannot have faith.

Faith in our finances means seeking God's direction, and then ordering our spending, saving, and giving in accordance with the convictions God has given us. Seeking God's direction in our finances is a tangible way to draw near to God and to live in a way that evidences a belief that He is the owner of everything that we possess and a trust that He cares for us no matter what.

EXPLORING HEBREWS 11:6

According to this verse, having faith means believing two specific things. What are those two things?

How does God being a rewarder of those who seek Him encourage you to exercise your faith in Him?

“Without faith it is impossible to please Him”

According to HEBREWS 11:1, what is the definition of faith?

How would having a confident faith like this affect your own walk with God?



Read HEBREWS 11:23–28. What did Moses choose to endure or give up on the basis of his faith?

Read ROMANS 14:22–23. According to these verses, how does having faith in daily actions free you before God? Conversely, how does doubting God’s direction and provision in daily actions condemn you?

Are there any financial patterns or habits that you persist in doing, even while believing that you shouldn’t do them?

“Whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists”

What difference does believing that God exists make in a person’s life?



How does the way you currently handle your money evidence your belief that God exists? What changes do you want to implement to make this more of a reality?

Romans 14:5 tells you to be fully convinced in your own mind when you take a stand of faith. Why is it so important for you to be fully convinced in your own mind that God exists?

Read JAMES 2:18-19. Is simple mental assent/belief in the existence of God the type of belief God desires from you? Why or why not?



“He rewards those who seek Him”

Read MATTHEW 25:24-30. What did fear cause the servant who received the one talent to do or not do?

How did the servant’s fear of the master impact his ability to trust his master’s intentions?

Has fear of God’s character or fear of the future ever kept you from acting in faith? If so, how?

According to MATTHEW 6:31-33, what is the reward for seeking God?



How can you seek God in your finances?

APPLYING HEBREWS 11:6

Write down a significant financial decision you have been contemplating recently. Ask God what He would have you do in that situation. Begin to make it a habit to ask God what He would have you to do in your financial life.

