

Money Paralysis



“Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.”

The Apostle Paul | Philippians 4:11-13 (NLT)

A man once told me that if he had \$10,000 then he could turn it into great riches. I responded asking, “If I give you a dollar, could you turn it

into two? His blank stare conveyed that he was using his lack of money as an excuse. Have you fallen victim to this paralyzing “if only I had more money, then I could...” thinking?

“Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender.” (Proverbs 22:7)

Have you experienced the paralyzing power of debt? A ball and chain around your ankle, each month you must make that payment, or else! What opportunities have passed you by because of it?

Has fear of the lack of money in your future taken you hostage? The Bible speaks extensively about the importance of planning and saving, but to the extreme that it keeps you from doing what God has you here to do? Are “wants” inflating your goals above your needs?

When it comes to advancing your Mission, money can paralyze.

Reflect: How is money keeping me from advancing my Mission?

The Apostle Paul forged ahead with his Mission whether he had little or much. He shows us that advancing our Missions is not dependent on having money. How far would the gospel have spread had he said, “If I only had 30 pieces of silver, then I could make my way to Corinth to preach the Good News?”

On the other hand, how could he have gone if he was forced to earn a high wage because he owed the bank a great sum of money? He remained nimble.

Paul was not worried about his financial future either. He'd learned the secret of contentment. He was so confident that Christ would oversee him through all situations, future included, that he ventured forth without worry.

Consider: My Mission advances by starting small.

Paul didn't construct lofty plans to change the world overnight. Imagine the cost of "going big!" Instead, he was content to begin his Mission in a small way from right where he was.

"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones." Jesus Christ (Luke 16:10)

Over time, his ministry grew because he proved he was faithful with what he had.

Imagine: Intimacy leading me to become financially content.

Immersed in a world that endlessly promotes "more is better," the line between needs and wants blurs, luring us to spend money we don't have. The thing is, though God has ample riches, he only promises us what we need. Worldly expectation for more than this traps us.

"And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus." The Apostle Paul (Philippians 4:19)

Adopting a discipline of saying "No!" is helpful, but human efforts easily fail under pressure. Rather, Paul's contentment came from his

confidence in Christ. How does one gain such confidence? Move close to him. The strength to support your “No!” comes from Intimacy with Jesus. Paul gained confidence that he could do all things through the strength of Christ. You can have this confidence too. Intimacy with Christ gives you just what you need to free yourself from...

Money Paralysis!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- What paralyzing money issue do I need to tackle?
 - What underlying fear is fueling it?
 - What does Jesus say to overcome my fear?
 - What can I do to advance my Mission a little bit today?
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Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

Contentment advances my Mission.

“Don’t love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, ‘I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.’”

Hebrews 13:5





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