

Daily Hope 2019年8月11-17日(第32週)

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2019.08.11 (Sunday) Devotion Title: [What Does God Think of You?]

"The mountains and hills may crumble, but my love for you will never end." (Isaiah 54:10 GNT)

If you don't feel loved by God, you're certainly not going to offer love to anybody else. It is impossible to be loving unless you understand and remember the way God loves you.

You need to remind yourself every day what God thinks about you — not what the world thinks or what you think about yourself. That is what removes your fears.

Let me give you four things God thinks about you to help you remember why and how to love.

You're completely accepted.

We spend much of our lives trying to earn acceptance from our parents, peers, those we respect, those we envy, and even total strangers. But you need to realize God has already settled this issue of acceptance: "Jesus ... made us acceptable to God" (Titus 3:7 CEV). What Jesus did on the cross made you completely acceptable to God — no matter what you've done or will do.

You're unconditionally loved.

God doesn't say, "I love you if ..." or "I love you because ..." He says, "I love you — period!" You can't make God stop loving you, because his love is not based on what you do but on who he is. Isaiah 54:10 says, "The mountains and hills may crumble, but my love for you will never end" (GNT).

You're totally forgiven.

Because Jesus died on the cross and gave his life as a payment for your sins, you are totally forgiven. Romans 8:1 says, "There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus" (NLT). God doesn't rehearse your sins; he releases them.

You're considered extremely valuable.

There are two things that create value: who owns something, and what somebody's willing to pay for it.

You are a child of God and "have been bought and paid for by Christ" (1 Corinthians 7:23 TLB). Jesus Christ paid for you with his life. That's how valuable you are.

When you remember that you are accepted, loved, forgiven, and valuable to the Creator of the universe, you will be better equipped to show that love to others and build deeper relationships.

- How should the way God thinks of you change the way you think about yourself?
- What keeps you from completely loving, accepting, and forgiving the people with whom you have a relationship?
- How do you show others that they are valuable to you?



2019.08.11 (週日) 靈修 題目: 「神怎樣看待你?」

「大山可以挪開,小山可以遷移,但我的慈愛必不離開你...」 (以賽亞書 54:10)

如果你不覺得自己被神所愛,你必然不會去把愛給與其他人。除 非你明白和記住神愛你的方式,否則不可能愛。

你要每天提醒自己神對你有甚麼想法——不是世界對你的看法或你對自己的想法。這樣可以挪去你的恐懼。

讓我告訴你四樣神對你的看法來幫助你記住為甚麼及如何去愛。

你被全然接納

我們花盡人生大部分的時間去博得父母、同輩、所敬佩或羨慕的 人,甚至陌生人的接納。但是你要知道神已經解決了這個接納的 問題。「好叫我們因他的恩得稱為義,可以憑著永生的盼望成為 後嗣。」(提多書 3:7) 耶穌在十字架上所作的使你完全被神所接 納——不管你以前做過或者將來會做甚麼。

你無條件地被愛

神不會說:「如果你這樣我才愛你...因為你這樣所以我愛你。」 祂說:「我就是愛你!」你不能使神停止愛你,因為祂的愛不是 基於你的所作所為,而是祂的本質。以賽亞書 54:10 說:「大山 可以挪開,小山可以遷移,但我的慈愛必不離開你...」

你被全然饒恕

因為耶穌已經釘死在十字架上去為你贖罪,所以你已經完全被寬 恕了。羅馬書 8:1 說:「如今,那些在基督耶穌裏的就不定罪 了。」神不會歷數你的過犯,只會免除你的過犯。

你至為寶貴

有兩樣東西奠定價值:是誰擁有那東西和人們願意為之付出多少 代價。

你是神的兒女,而且「你們是重價買來的」(哥林多前書 7:23)。 耶穌基督以生命救贖你。你是這樣的寶貴。

當你記住你是被接納、被愛、被饒恕、而且被萬有的創造主看為 寶貴的時候,你便會更能預備好去表示對別人的愛和建立更深切 的關係。

生命反思

- 神對你的想法如何改變你對自己的想法?
- 有甚麼阻礙你去完全地愛、接納和寬恕與你有所關連的人?
- 你怎樣讓別人知道他們對你來說是寶貴的?

2019.08.12 (Monday) Devotion Title: [Love Others the Way God Loves You]

"Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up." (1 Corinthians 13:7 GW)

The same love that God gives to you, you are to offer to everybody else that you come in contact with. It's not an option or a suggestion. It's a command: "Now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other" (John 13:34 NLT).

If you are a follower of Christ, you must love everybody — whether you like them or not — in the same way that Christ loved you. That means you are to accept them completely, love them unconditionally, forgive them totally, and consider them extremely valuable.

Loving others in this way will transform your relationships!

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 13:7, "Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up" (GW).

This is how God loves you. God never stops being patient with you. God never stops believing in you. God never stops hoping for the best in your life. God never gives up on you. That's what God expects you to do with everybody else.

"Love never stops being patient." That means love extends grace. You need to offer grace to others.

"Love never stops believing." That means it expresses faith. You tell someone, "Even though we're having a tough time, I will never stop believing in you."

"Love never stops hoping." That means love expects the best. Are you expecting the best in your marriage, or have you settled for less than the best?

"Love never gives up." That means love endures the worst. It means you can look at the other person and say, "You can throw everything at me, but I'm going to keep loving you, no matter what."

Prayer

If you want to start transforming your relationships today, then I invite you to read this prayer to God: "Dear God, I admit that I have made a mess in my relationships. They're complicated and broken, and I've often settled for less than the best. They need a transformation! I'd like you to begin by changing me. Deliver me from my fears, because I can see how they make me distant and defensive and even demanding. Today and every day from now on, I want to surrender my heart to you. I want to learn to live my life in your love and be filled with your love.

"Help me to accept others, just as you've accepted me. Help me to love others unconditionally, just as you have loved me. Help me to forgive others totally, just as you've forgiven me. And help me to value others as much as you value me. Help me to extend grace to and express faith in the people around me. Help me to expect the best in others, and help me to endure the worst when it happens. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen."

2019.08.12 (週一) 靈修

題目: [愛人如同神愛你一樣]

「凡事包容,凡事相信,凡事盼望,凡事忍耐。」(哥林多前書 13:7)

你要把神給與你的愛同樣地給與每一個你接觸到的人。這不是一個選擇或者建議,而是一條誡命:「現在我給你們一條新命令: 你們要彼此相愛。正如我愛你們一樣,你們也要彼此相愛。」 (約翰福音 13:34)

如果你是一個跟從基督的人,你一定要去愛每一個人——不管你 喜不喜歡他們——就像基督愛你那樣。這意味著你要全然接納、 無條件地愛、全然饒恕他們,並看他們為至寶。

你這樣去愛別人會轉化你的關係。

哥林多前書 13:7 說:「(愛是)凡事包容,凡事相信,凡事盼望, 凡事忍耐。」

神就是這樣愛你。神不會停止包容你、相信你。神永遠不會停止 在你的生命中期待最好的表現。神永不放棄你。神期望你也是這 樣對待別人。

「愛是凡事包容」,意思是愛能給出恩典。你要向人施恩。

「凡事相信」,意思是展現信心。你要告訴别人:「即使我們在 困境中,我也不會停止信任你。」 「凡事盼望」,意味著愛是期待最美好的。你期望最美好的婚姻 還是勉強接受次好的就算了?

「凡事忍耐」意思是愛能容忍最惡劣的。這代表你看著對方然後 說:「隨便你怎樣對待我,無論如何,我仍會繼續愛你。」

禱告

今天如果你想轉化你的關係,我邀請你向神誦讀這一篇禱告:「親愛的神,我承認我把自己的關係弄得一團糟,弄得複雜而且破碎。我勉強接受不是最好的東西。它們需要轉化!我願意祢來改變我,給我新的開始。幫我脫離恐懼,因為這令我與人疏遠,常設心防,甚至變得苛刻。從今天開始,我把我的心降服交託給祢。我要學習活在祢的愛裏面,被祢的愛充滿。

幫助我接納別人,就像祢接納我一樣。幫助我無條件地去愛別人,像 祢愛我一樣。幫助我寬恕別人,如同祢寬恕我一樣。幫助我看別人為 寶貴,像祢看我為寶貴一樣。幫助我傳遞恩典、播撒信心給周圍的人。 幫助我對別人抱持最好的期望,並去容忍最惡劣的情況。奉主耶穌的 名而求。阿們。」

2019.08.13 (Tuesday) Devotion Title: [How to Be Biblically Shrewd with Your Money]

"Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own." (Luke 12:15 NLT)

The Bible tells a story in Luke 16:1-13 of a rich man who enlisted a manager to take care of his property. When the manager was accused of mishandling his master's money and was called in to give an account of his stewardship, the manager devised a plan. He knew he was going to lose his job and decided to make some friends who would take care of him when he was fired. So, he summoned everyone who owed his master money and lowered their debt; if someone owed 800 gallons of olive oil, he told them to change their bill to 400 gallons.

When the master heard what he had done, he "had to admire the dishonest rascal for being so shrewd. And it is true that the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with the world around them than are the children of the light" (Luke 16:8 NLT).

In the parable, Jesus doesn't praise the manager's dishonesty, but he does praise his shrewdness. What is shrewdness? To be shrewd means you're smart, strategic, and resourceful. You see a problem clearly, you know what needs to be done, and then you figure out how to do it. God wants you to learn how to be biblically shrewd with your money for the rest of your life.

From the story, we can learn four things that we shouldn't do with our money.

1. Don't waste your money.

Luke 16:1 says, "A report came that the manager was wasting his employer's money." Since everything you have belongs to God and is a gift from him — including your money — then you have to be careful not to waste what belongs to your master.

2. Don't love your money.

You've got to decide if God is going to be number one in your life or if making a lot of money will be your number one goal in life. You cannot serve both.

"No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money" (Luke 16:13).

3. Don't trust your money.

I don't care how much money you've got — you can always lose it. The manager learned this pretty quickly in Luke 16:3: "Now what? My boss has fired me."

If you want to be secure, the center of your life has to be built around something that can never be taken from you. And there's only one thing that you can never lose: God's love for you.

4. Don't expect your money to satisfy.

If you think having more will make you happier, more secure, or more valuable, you are seriously misguided, because money will never satisfy: "Whoever loves money will never have enough. And whoever loves wealth will never be satisfied with his income" (Ecclesiastes 5:10).

That's why Jesus says in Luke 12:15, "Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

- What would you do differently with your money if you considered with every purchase that you were spending someone else's money?
- If others looked at your life and how you used your money, what would they say is most important to you?
- How can you be ambitious and satisfied with your income at the same time?

2019.08.13 (週二) 靈修 題目: [按照聖經精明地理財]

「於是對眾人說:你們要謹慎自守,免去一切的貪心,因為人的 生命不在乎家道豐富。」(路加福音 12:15)

路加福音 16:1-13 述說了有關一個財主要管家去管理他的錢財的 故事。當那個管家被質問為何他沒有妥善管理主人的金錢時,他 想到了一個辦法。他知道自己很快就會被解雇,所以他要交一些 朋友,以便在他失業之後得到那些朋友的照顧。他傳喚那些欠他 主人債務的人,減少他們的債務。如果有人欠 800 加侖的橄欖油, 他就叫他們在賬上改為欠 400 加侖的橄欖油。

當主人聽到他管家的行為時,「主人就誇獎這不義的管家做事聰 明。因為今世之子,在世事之上,較比光明之子更加聰明。」 (路加福音 16:8)

在這個比喻裏面,耶穌不是讚揚那個管家的不忠,而是祂嘉許他 的精明。甚麼是精明?精明的意思是聰明、有戰略和足智多謀。 你清楚看到問題所在,知道要怎樣處理和如何解決問題。神要你 平生學會怎樣像聖經的教導去精明地理財。

從這故事中我們學到在理財上有四不要:

1. 不要浪費金錢

路加福音 16:1 說:「有人報告說這個管家浪費了主人的錢。」 既然你所擁有的一切都是屬於神和祂所賜與的 — 包括你的金 錢 — 你要小心不能浪費屬於主人的東西。

2. 不要貪愛錢財

你要決定神在你人生中是否居首位,還是在你人生中居首位的目 標是要賺很多錢。你不可以兩者兼顧。

「沒有人能服事兩個主人,不是恨這個,愛那個,就是忠於這個, 輕視那個。你們不能既服事神,又服事金錢。」(路加福音 16:13)

3. 不要信靠金錢

我不管你有多少錢 — 你隨時可以失去它。 那管家很快就在路加 福音 16:3 學會了: 「主人辭我,不用我再作管家,我將來作甚 麼?」

如果你想要有安全感,你人生的重心應該建立在一些不能被奪走 的東西上。有一樣東西你是永遠不會失去的:神對你的愛。

4. 不要期望金錢可以滿足你

如果你認為擁有更多會讓你更快樂、更安心、更有價值的話,那 麼你是嚴重地被誤導了。因為金錢永遠不能滿足你:「貪愛銀子 的,不因得銀子知足;貪愛豐富的,也不得得利益知足。這也是虛 空。」(傳道書 5:10)

所以耶穌在路加福音 12:15 說:「你們要謹慎自守,免去一切的 貪心,因為人的生命不在乎家道豐富。」

生命反思

- 如果你想到你每次購物都是花費別人的錢,你消費的方式會否有 所不同?
- 如果别人看你的人生,看你如何消費,他們會說甚麼對你最重要?
- 你怎麼可以雄心壯志同時又滿足於現在的收入呢?

2019.08.14 (Wednesday) Devotion Title: [Where Do You Treasure Most?]

"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." (Matthew 6:19-21 NLT)

God is using money to test you. He doesn't just automatically give his blessings to anybody; he tests you first to see if you're responsible. If he can trust you with material possessions, then he can trust you with spiritual power. But if you're not even managing your money well, why in the world should he give you the stuff that really matters?

God's favorite tool to test you is your finances. He's using your money to test several things.

Money shows what you love most.

If you really want to know what's important to you, look at your calendar and your credit card statement, because the way you spend your time and money tells others what you love the most.

Matthew 6:19-21 says, "Don't store up treasures here on earth Store your treasures in heaven Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be" (NLT). Wherever you want your heart to be, put your money in it, and you'll get interested in it.

Money shows what you really trust most.

Do you trust in your money for security? Or do you trust in God? Do you trust in your happiness or do you trust in God for your happiness? Do you trust in money to make you feel good about yourself, or do you trust in God to make you feel good about yourself? Money is the acid test of faith.

The Bible says in Proverbs 11:28, "Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf" (NIV).

Money shows if God can trust you.

Money doesn't just show if you trust God; it also shows if God can trust you. Luke 16:10-12 says, "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? And if you are not faithful with other people's things, why should you be trusted with things of your own?" (NLT)

How you handle money determines how much God can bless your life. Once you understand that there is a direct connection between money management and God's blessing, you will be motivated to get your finances in order so that God will bless you with spiritual power.

- What would you say is the desire of your heart? Does the way you spend your money support your answer?
- If you were to lose your job today, what would you do? Do you trust God to provide for you?
- How does the way you manage God's resources show him that he can trust you?

2019.08.14 (週三) 靈修 題目: [你積攢財寶在哪裏?]

「不要為自己積償財寶在地上;地上有蟲子咬,能壞,也有賊挖 窟窿來偷。只要積償財寶在天上;天上沒有蟲子咬,不能壞,也 沒有賊挖窟窿來偷。因為你的財寶在那裏,你的心也在那裏。」 (馬太福音 6:19-21)

神利用錢財來試驗你。祂不會自動給任何人祝福,祂會先試驗你 是否有責任感。如果祂可以在物質財富上信任你的話,那麼祂便 可以在屬靈能力上信任你。但是如果你連錢財都不能管理好的話, 祂有甚麼可能賜給你真正重要的東西呢?

神最喜歡用財務來試驗你。祂用你的錢財來測試以下幾個方面:

錢財顯示甚麼是你的最愛。

如果你真的想知道甚麼是對你重要的,只要看看你的時間表和你 的信用卡月結單。因為你怎樣去花費時間和金錢,就可以告訴別 人你最愛的是甚麼。

馬太福音 6:19-21 説:「不要為自己積攢財寶在地上…只要積攢 財寶在天上…因為你的財寶在哪裏,你的心也在那裏。」你想要 你的心在哪裏,你就把金錢投放在那裏,這樣會提昇你對它的興 趣。

錢財顯示甚麼是你最信靠的。

你是相信神,還是相信金錢可以給你保障?你是相信神可以使你 快樂,還是相信自己的快樂?你是相信神可以帶給你好的感受, 還是相信金錢可以使你感覺很好?金錢是信心的關鍵測試。 箴言 11:28 說:「倚仗自己財物的,必跌倒;義人必發旺,如青 葉。」

錢財顯示出神能否信任你。

金錢不單能顯示你是否相信神,也可以顯示神是否能相信你。路 加福音 16:10-12 說:「人在最小的事上忠心,在大事上也忠心; 在最小的事上不義,在大事上也不義。倘若你們在不義的錢財上 不忠心,誰還把那真實的錢財託付你們呢?倘若你們在別人的東 西上不忠心,誰還把你們自己的東西給你們呢?」

你怎樣去處理你的錢財,確定神可以有多祝福你的生命。一旦你 明白錢財的管理跟神的祝福有直接關係,你便會更積極地處理好 你的財務,從而讓神能夠祝福你並加添屬靈的能力。

生命反思

- 甚麼是你心中的渴望?你消費的方式支持你的答案嗎?
- 如果你今天失業,你會怎麼辦?你相信神會供應你嗎?
- 你管理神的資源的方式如何讓祂覺得祂可以信任你?

2019.08.15 (Thursday) Devotion Title: [Wise Money Managers Look Ahead]

"The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts." (Proverbs 14:8 TLB)

Money is a tool to be used for God's purposes. We're not to hoard it. We're not to stockpile it. We're not to worship it. We're to use it! Use temporary resources — what God has put in your hands — for permanent good.

In the story of the dishonest but shrewd manager in Luke 16:1-13, Jesus made him the hero of the story. The manager knew he was going to be fired, so he decided to make some friends by lowering the debts owed to his master.

What did Jesus like about this guy? He's dishonest, but he did three things right, and they are lessons God wants you to learn and apply to your finances.

The manager looked ahead.

Most people never look ahead when it comes to their finances. The average savings in Europe is about 12 percent of income, and in Japan it's about 25 percent. The average savings Americans had last year was minus one percent. We spent one percent more than we made! We're not saving anything, and that's not smart.

Proverbs 14:8 says, "The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts" (TLB).

The manager made a plan.

How do you know if you've got a financial plan? It's real simple: Do you have a budget? A budget is simply planned spending. A budget is telling your money where you want it to go rather than wondering where it went. You've got to have a plan.

The Bible says in Proverbs 16:9, "We should make plans — counting on God to direct us."

The manager acted quickly.

Luke 16:4 says, "I know how to ensure that I'll have plenty of friends who will give me a home when I am fired" (NLT).

The manager didn't procrastinate; he didn't delay. He set his plan in motion. He didn't say, "Someday I'm going to get my finances in order" or "Someday I'm going to start saving for retirement." "

Jesus is not commending the manager's dishonesty but his attitude, which says, "I'm going to think ahead. I'm going to make a plan. And I'm going to invest in relationships that will benefit others and me in the future."

That's smart! And Jesus wants you to do the same when it comes to your finances. Are you spending your treasure here on Earth or looking ahead and storing up treasure in Heaven?

- How can you respond today to God's offer of grace? What facts do you need to face up to in your finances?
- How do you need to start planning for the future when it comes to your finances? What do you want to accomplish in the future with your money?
- In what ways have you procrastinated when it comes to taking steps to managing your finances and saving for the future? What can you do today to move forward in these areas?

2019.08.15 (週四) 靈修 題目: [精明的管家明白己道]

「通達人的智慧在乎明白己道; 愚昧人的愚妄乃是詭詐(或譯:自 嘆)。」(箴言 14:8)

金錢是履行神旨意的工具。我們不要積聚、儲存或敬拜它。我們 要利用它!用暫時的資源——神放在你手中的——去做影響深遠 的好事。

路加福音 16:1-13 所說及有關那不忠卻精明的管家的故事,耶穌 讓他成為故事中的英雄。那個管家知道自己快要被解雇,所以他 決定給那些欠他主人債務的人減少債項,與他們交個朋友。

耶穌怎麼去說這個人呢?他是不忠的,但是他做了三件正確的事, 是神要你去學習然後應用在自身財務上的功課。

1. 明白己道。

很多人都不為自己的財務方向作打算。歐洲的平均積蓄百分比是 12%,而日本是 25%。美國人去年的積蓄百分比是負 1%。我們 花的錢比我們賺取的多了百分之一。我們沒有任何的積蓄,這是 不明智的。

箴言 14:8 說:「通達人的智慧在乎明白己道;愚昧人的愚妄乃是 詭詐。」

2. 做出計劃。

你怎麼知道你有一個財政計劃呢?很簡單:你有預算嗎?預算簡 單來說就是消費計劃。預算是你想要在哪一方面消費而不是奇怪 怎麼錢都花光了。你必須有一個計劃。 箴言 16:9 說:「人心籌算自己的道路;惟耶和華指引他的腳 步。」

3. 行動快捷。

路加福音 16:4 說:「我知道怎麼行,好叫人在我不作管家之後, 接我到他們家裏去。」

那個管家沒有拖延,也沒有推遲。他按照他的計劃行。他沒有說: 「有一天我會整理好我的財務」或「有一天我會為退休儲蓄」。

耶穌所嘉許的不是那個管家的不忠,而是他的態度:「我要為未 來打算。我要做一個計劃。我要投資在一些日後可以益己益人的 關係上面。」

這就是精明!而耶穌要你在財務上也用同樣的方法。你是把你的 財寶花費在地上,還是預作規畫去把財寶積聚在天上?

生命反思

- 你今天如何回應神所賜的恩典? 在財務上你要面對哪些事實?
- 你需要怎樣在財務上規劃未來?你想利用金錢在將來成就些甚麼?
- 有哪些方面拖延了你管理財務和為將來儲蓄的步伐?在這些方面 你今天可以做些甚麼以圖改進?

2019.08.16 (Friday) Devotion Title: [Here's the Best Use of Your Money]

"Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your earthly possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home." (Luke 16:9 NLT)

The best use of your money is to use it to get people into Heaven.

Luke 16:9 is a problem verse that most people don't understand. Jesus says, "Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your earthly possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home" (NLT).

Jesus is saying that, just like the shrewd manager who made friends he could count on later, you need to use some of your money to make eternal friends that you will have forever in Heaven and who will welcome you when you get there.

He's not saying you can buy your way into Heaven, because you can't. Jesus has already paid the price on the cross. He's not saying you can purchase your salvation, because you can't. Salvation is a free gift by grace.

Jesus is telling you to use your money to build friendships that are going to go on and on for eternity. When you use your money to help other people meet Jesus, you make friends for eternity and you gain rewards for eternity.

One day you're going to die. Imagine that when you get to Heaven, there's a hundred people standing at the entrance, clapping and cheering and saying, "We've been waiting for you! We're here because you spent some money to tell us the Good News. We're your friends for life ... no, eternity, because we're in debt to you. If it weren't for the way you used your money, we wouldn't have heard how to get to Heaven."

Are you using any of your money for that kind of thing? Is anybody going to be in Heaven because of you? Because of the way you used your money?

When you buy a Bible and you give it to somebody who doesn't have one, you've stored up treasure in Heaven. When you support a program that shares the Good News around the world, you have stored up treasure in Heaven. When you help build a church, you have stored up treasure in Heaven. That is the highest and best use of your money.

You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead by investing in people who are going to Heaven.

- What are some of the things you spend money on that do not have an eternal impact?
- Who are the people God has already placed in your life with whom you can share the Good News?
- What are some ways you can use your money to invest in eternal friendships?

2019.08.16 (週五) 靈修 題目: [錢財的最佳用途]

「我又告訴你們,要藉著那不義的錢財結交朋友,到了錢財無用 的時候,他們可以接你們到永存的帳幕裏去。」(路加福音 16:9)

最好地利用錢財就是去帶領人們進入天國。

路加福音 16:9 是很多人都不明白的一節金句。耶穌說:「我又告訴你們,要藉著那不義的錢財結交朋友,到了錢財無用的時候, 他們可以接你們到永存的帳幕裏去。」

耶穌是說,就像那個精明的管家去結交一些日後可以依靠的朋友 一樣,你需要利用你的錢財去結交一些朋友,那麼你便會在天國 得到永恆的友誼,並且在你上到天國時得到他們的歡迎。

祂不是說你可以買得到進入天國的道路,因為你不可以。耶穌已 經在十字架上付出了代價。祂不是說你可以買得到拯救,因為你 不可以。拯救是從恩典而來的免費禮物。

耶穌在告訴你去用你的錢財去建立一些持久直到永恆的友誼。當 你用錢財去幫助別人認識耶穌的時候,你是在結交永遠的朋友並 贏得永恆的獎賞。

有一天你終會死去。想像一下當你上到天國時,入口前面站了一 百個人拍掌歡呼說:「我們在等待你!我們之所以能夠來到這裏 是因為你花了錢財去給我們述說福音。我們是你一生的朋友,不, 是永遠的朋友。我們欠你的。如果不是你那樣使用錢財,我們不 會聽到怎樣才可以進入天國的信息。」

你曾花錢在那樣的事上嗎?有人會因為你而進入天國嗎?因為你

以那樣的方式使用錢財?

當你買一本聖經送給一個沒有聖經的人時,你已經積聚了財寶在 天國。當你支持一個普世宣教的計劃時,你已經積聚財寶在天國。 當你幫忙建立一個教會時,你已經積聚財寶在天國。這是錢財最 好最崇高的用途。

金錢生不帶來死不帶走,但是你可以送出去投資在那些會進入天國的人身上。

生命反思

- 你在哪些沒有永恆價值的東西上花費錢財?
- 神在你生命中安排了哪些人,是你可以去跟他們分享福音的?
- 你可以用甚麼途徑去投資在永恆的友誼上?

2019.08.17 (Saturday) Devotion Title: [What Stands Between You and Great Faith]

"Everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD's battle, and he will give you to us!" (1 Samuel 17:47 NLT)

In the story of David in 1 Samuel, he actually had to fight four other giants before he got to Goliath. They weren't physical giants, but they were giants in his mind.

You are far more likely to have to face those giants than a Goliath, but they can be just as big and intimidating and can keep you from becoming who God wants you to be and fulfilling the dream that God has put in your heart.

The first giant in facing your dream is **delay**. No dream is fulfilled instantly. God gives you the dream on one day, but he doesn't fulfill it the next day. It may be years before you see the fulfillment of your life dream. There is always a waiting period.

In David's case, his dad held him back from the dream. After Samuel anointed David as king, Jesse told David to get back to tending the sheep!

When God's plan contradicts somebody else's plan, there's going to be a delay, and people are going to try to hold you back — sometimes even the people who love you the most. But God is faithful, and he will complete his work in you in his time.

The second giant you may face is **discouragement**. Goliath created a climate of fear in Israel, and everybody was convinced they were going to lose the battle.

Who are you listening to who says it can't be done? Who is putting down your dreams, saying it won't ever happen? Sometimes you just need a fresh voice — a kid from the village with

fresh eyes who says, "This guy's nothing. We can take him down."

The third giant standing in your way is **disapproval**. In David's case, his own brother questioned his motives and disapproved of him going after Goliath.

When God gives you a dream that other people are afraid of and you go for it anyway, you will be misjudged, maligned, and misunderstood. You have to decide what matters more to you — the approval of other people or the approval of God.

The fourth giant you may have to face is **doubt**.

There was nobody who was a greater expert on war than King Saul, and he told David he was crazy for thinking a boy could fight a warrior like Goliath.

Maybe the expert is saying you can't do it, either. That's enough to make you start doubting yourself.

When I wrote "The Purpose Driven Life," I got a letter from the editor (which I framed) that said, "This book will never work. Nobody's going to read 40 chapters." The experts are often wrong.

- What have you learned about yourself and about God when a dream has been delayed?
- Who do the voices of discouragement that have kept you down belong to? Who do you need to listen to instead?
- What are God's promises that you can use for encouragement when you start to doubt yourself or your dream?

2019.08.17 (週六) 靈修

題目: [有甚麼阻擋你擁有非同一般的信心]

「又使這眾人知道耶和華使人得勝,不是用刀用槍,因為爭戰的 勝敗全在乎耶和華。他必將你們交在我們手裏。」(撒母耳記上 17:47)

在撒母耳記上大衞的故事中,大衞在面對歌利亞之前要先對抗另 外四個巨人。牠們並非真實的巨人,而是在他心中的巨人。

你會面對那些巨人的機會必然遠遠多於面對歌利亞的機會,但是 牠們也可能是歌利亞那樣巨大的障礙令人畏懼。牠們會使你不能 成為神要你成為的人,使你不能達成神給你的夢想。

第一個要面對的巨人是**延遲**。沒有一個夢想會立刻實現。神今天 給你的夢想不會明天就實現。你有可能要等很多年才會夢想成真。 夢想一般都有一段等待期。

在大衞的例子中,他的父親阻擋了他的夢想。撒母耳膏了大衞為 王之後,耶西叫大衞回去牧羊。

當人的計劃與神的計劃相抵觸時,那麼一定會有延遲。人會延誤 你——有時還是一些最愛你的人。但是神是信實的,祂會按祂的 時間完成祂在你身上的作為。

第二個你會面對的巨人是**灰心**。歌利亞在以色列製造恐慌,每一個人都深信他們會打敗仗。

你會去相信那些說你做不到的人嗎?那些貶低你的夢想、說夢想 永遠不會實現的的人?

有時候你需要用一個全新的角度去看——就像那個鄉下小孩子從

另一角度去看,他說:「這個人沒有甚麼大不了,我們可以煞煞 他的氣焰。」

第三個阻擋你的巨人是**反對**。在大衞這例子當中,他自己的哥哥 懷疑他的動機,不贊成他去對付歌利亞。

當神給你一個別人害怕、但是你還是去追求的夢想時,你會被批 判、被中傷、被誤會。你要去決定甚麼對你更重要——是得到神 的認可,還是別人的認可。

第四個你可能要面對的巨人是懷疑。

在戰爭方面沒有人比掃羅更內行。但是他告訴大衞這個小孩子, 若想自己去打贏像歌利亞這樣的勇士,那簡直就是發瘋。

可能有個專家也說你做不到。這足夠令你懷疑自己。

當我寫作「標杆人生」時,我收到編輯的一封信(我把它裱起來 了)寫著:「這本書不行。沒有人會去閱讀有四十個篇章的書。」 很多時候專家是錯的。

生命反思

- 當夢想被延誤時,關於自己關於神你從中學到了甚麼?
- 那些灰心喪氣的聲音令你低沉,這些聲音從誰而來?不聽從它們, 你要聽從誰呢?
- 你開始懷疑自己的時候,可以應用神的哪一些應許作為鼓勵呢?

まわ Ŷ