

# *Experiencing Freedom* **Freedom from Debt**

## **I. Introduction**

## **II. What we think having “more” will do for us**

A. Having more will make me happier.

1. Eccl. 5:10-11 (NLT) <sup>10</sup>*Those who love money will never have enough. How absurd to think that wealth brings true happiness!* <sup>11</sup>*The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what is the advantage of wealth—except perhaps to watch it run through your fingers!*

B. Having more will make me feel important.

1. Luke 12:15 *Then He said to them, “Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.”*

C. Having more will make me more secure.

1. Prov. 11:28a (NLT) *Trust in your money and down you go!*
2. Prov. 18:11 (NLT) *The rich think of their wealth as an impregnable defense; they imagine it is a high wall of safety.*
3. I Tim. 6:9 *But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.*

## **III. How to enjoy life more with less things**

A. Find my happiness in helping others.

1. Acts 20:35b *“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”*

B. Find my self - worth in knowing God.

1. Ps. 139:17-18 (NLT) <sup>17</sup>*How precious are your thoughts about me, O God! They are innumerable!* <sup>18</sup>*I can’t even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up in the morning, you are still with me!*

2. Rom. 5:8 *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

C. Find my security in trusting God.

1. Heb. 13:5 *Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU."*
2. Matt. 6:19-21 <sup>19</sup>*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup>But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; <sup>21</sup>for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

#### IV. What if I'm in debt?

A. Go on a "spending diet!"

B. Put God first in your money!

1. Prov. 3:9-10 <sup>9</sup>*Honor the LORD from your wealth And from the first of all your produce; <sup>10</sup>So your barns will be filled with plenty And your vats will overflow with new wine.*

C. Settle the issues of what you think having more will give you.

1. Having more will make me happier.
2. Having more will make me feel important.
3. Having more will make me more secure.

#### V. Conclusion

*(Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture verses are in the New American Standard Version.)*