



Break The Cycle of Lack – Message 2

Announcements



Our small groups have started praying daily for the highly anticipated Spiritual Emphasis Series called *Born For This*. Join 1,000 individuals for 1 minute a day until Jan 15th! Email prayer@churchoftheking.com to receive daily emails with scripture and a prayer point.

Night of Prayer & Worship // Friday, November 4th from 7pm–9pm // All Campuses. This life-giving night includes powerful prayer for personal needs, encouragement from God's Word, supportive group prayer, and inspirational worship. Register for childcare at ChurchoftheKing.com/register.

Warm-up

Choose one or more of the warm-up questions below.

- Why do you think some individuals can lack material things yet display an inexplicable joy and contentment. Why do others have abundant wealth but lack true contentment?
- True or false: Money is the root of evil. **Read 1 Timothy 6:10.** According to this verse, what is the root of evil? Explain why you believe this is a true statement.

Word and Application

Our first message in the *Break the Cycle* series dealt with debt. This week's message continues along a similar thread to breaking the cycle of *Lack*. Scripture serves as a powerful roadmap filled with timeless promises and principles concerning this topic. Today we discover the tools we need to determine how we can overcome the mindset and pattern of lack in our lives.

Read Luke 16:10-11 and Matthew 6:24. How do you see money as the number one competitor for our hearts and allegiance? Describe how our current society views money.

As God blesses you with resources and money, He also attaches a test to see if you love money or love God. Money can be a counterfeit god that falsely promises what only the One True God can provide. Let's take a look at four of these deceptive promises.

Money Promises What Only God Can Provide:

1. Security
2. Freedom
3. Power
4. Significance

Do you rely more heavily on money than God in any of these four areas? Why or why not? What are some signs that you might love money more than God?

The antidote to lack is implementing the ancient biblical practice of *tithing*; it's putting God *first* by returning the *first* ten percent of the income God provides for us. The principle of tithing was in place *before* the written law as shown in **Genesis 14:18-20** and remains for us today.

Read: Malachi 3:8-12, Leviticus 27:30, and Matthew 23:23

Based upon these passages, why do you think the tithe is so important to God? What does it mean to you when you give God your first and your best?

Three Things Our Tithe Does

1. The tithe provides for God's work through His church.

Read Malachi 3:10. In this passage we see that the house of God is where you get your primary source of spiritual nourishment in your life. Share when you put God first in this area and you experienced the blessing of doing so.

2. Tithing breaks the power of lack and increases our faith in God.

Read Malachi 3:10, Malachi 3:11, and Genesis 28:22. The tithe teaches us to trust God and breaks the power of self-reliance by building our faith. What promises does the Lord make to us in Malachi 3? What obstacles prevent you from believing these promises? Why can we put our trust in the promises of God?

3. The tithe teaches us to put God first.

Read Deuteronomy 14:23, Proverbs 3:9-10, and Romans 5:8. We give back to God because He first gave to us. "The tithe is not a matter of finances, but a matter of lordship (surrender) and obedience to honor God." What does this statement mean to you? What are some practical ways you can re-arrange your priorities in order to honor God in this area?

Use this week to evaluate your mindset and *heartitude* towards money. Ask God to reveal any areas where you are trusting money more than Him. If you have struggled with trusting God with the tithe, review the scripture above and begin to test God by tithing. Ask the Lord to help you be obedient and faithful in this area. He will!

Prayer

Close in prayer by thanking God for the money and resources He provides each month to meet your basic needs. Pray for areas of lack and ask Him to reveal any ways you can better honor Him through finances. Pray for specific needs of the group.