

All These Things

SAVING WELL DONE

Step Seven



A Personal or Small Group Guide for the *Stewardship*
WELL DONE
JOURNEY

Step 7 of the *Stewardship Well Done Journey* is **saving**.

Often times we find ourselves in one of two categories: we're either *savers* or *spenders*.

Consider for a moment that we often call spenders "impulse spenders" but almost never use that word in conjunction with saving. Could it be that impulse saving (saving with no real purpose in mind) could be equal to impulse spending (spending with no real purpose in mind)?

Take a moment to discuss this in your group. As you do, write down any "a-ha" moments that come to mind.

Jesus said, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and **all these things** will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33, emphasis added).

The context of this verse is found in the middle of Jesus teaching about worry. Worry about what we'll eat or wear, or what will happen today or tomorrow.

- Do you believe *impulse saving* could be rooted in worry? Why or why not?
- What happens when worry causes either excessive saving or excessive spending?

To uncover the beautiful truth Jesus teaches us, let's focus on three simple words as part of the passage: **all these things**. What things? Well, they are the things that we worry about. The excessive spender *and* excessive saver both worry but respond to worry in different ways. To be free through freedom in Christ is to respond entirely different when it comes to the resources entrusted to our care, and when and why we save or spend. The key to releasing all these things is to seek first his kingdom and his righteousness. As we seek God first, everything about our saving and spending transforms into something that truly is "out of this world" because it reflects how resources are viewed through a kingdom lens.

- Are you a saver? If so, can you clearly state why you save? Write down your thoughts.
- Are you a spender? If so, would you consider exchanging some purposeless spending practices for purposeful saving?



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When we “seek first the kingdom and his righteousness,” here are three ways our saving is transformed. For each one, discuss the implications of these principles for your own life and discuss steps you would consider taking to embrace these practices.

1. Saving Well Done anticipates blessing others in need.

When our “all these things” are in the safety of God’s hands, we can release resources generously as we see others in need. Saving becomes an act of obedience to the voice of God, being an answer to someone’s prayers. We release worry-based hoarding for worry-free blessing.

1. Do you view your savings as being available for God to use to meet others’ needs?
2. Discuss any experiences you and others in your group have had when you were able to be generous in a worry-free way, even when it seemed you may not have enough for yourself? What happened as a result?
3. How do wisdom and discernment play a role in generosity?

2. Saving Well Done anticipates partnering with God in our calling.

God calls us to various stations in life – not just vocational ministry for pastors, chaplains or other “professional” Christians. What has God called you to do? How is he asking you to serve Him in the world today? These are valid questions, but have you considered how purposeful saving anticipates partnering with God as you say “yes” to His call for you? Saving and releasing resources in line with your call are both acts of trust. When we are assured in our call from God, we confidently release resources to live out our calling.

1. What is your calling?
2. When God calls, what is our part in seeing our calling fulfilled? What role does saving play in answering God’s call?
3. What barriers do you need help overcoming to save in ways that partner with your calling?

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3. Saving Well Done opens the way to serve God freely.

When our needs are met the doors are wide open to serving others freely in a vast number of ways. But just as importantly, when we will live in trust, knowing God will make good on His word, we can still serve freely because He will care for us along the way. Jesus said, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). We are to join God in serving our neighbors.

1. How is serving different from our calling?
2. In what ways would you serve others if money were not an issue? How might your savings play a part in taking steps of faith to serve others?
3. Jesus has said that as we seek first the kingdom and his righteousness, all these things will be added. What steps can you take to prioritize seeking the kingdom over “all these things?” How might that change your view of serving others?

When it comes to saving, the professionals at FMF Financial Services are here to serve you. We have helped many other people leverage saving in ways that assisted them in living out their calling, serving others freely, and blessing others generously.

Let’s begin the conversation about your Stewardship Well Done Journey.

Use the QR code below to visit our website, call us at (517) 750-2727, or submit a contact request at <https://fmffinancial.org/#contact>.

Close your group time in prayer, submitting your life to the Lord to fulfill your calling, be generous in all your ways, and serve Him by serving others with a joyful heart.

