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Practical Stewardship

- Change your paradigm
- Work diligently
- > Plan your spending
- Control your spending
- ➤ Listen to counsel
- > Persevere



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Change Your Paradigm

"He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him promptly."

Proverbs 13:24

Change Your Paradigm

"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower becomes the lender's slave."

Proverbs 22:7 (NASB)

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Change Your Paradigm

"For all things come from You, and of Your own we have given You."

1 Chron. 29:14

Change Your Paradigm

"A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished."

Proverbs 28:20

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Change Your Paradigm

"There is desirable treasure, and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man squanders it."

Proverbs 21:20

Change Your Paradigm

"Have you found honey? Eat only as much as you need, lest you be filled with it and vomit."

Proverbs 25:16

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Work Diligently

- ➤ Diligence = Hard Work + Wisdom
- Illustrated by the virtuous wife (Proverbs 31:27)
- ➤ Don't overwork (Prov. 23:4-5)
- Diligence will be rewarded
- > Time and chance happen to all men (Eccl. 9:10-11)
- > Diversify (Eccl. 11:6; Prov. 31)

Work Diligently

- > Am I working diligently?
- > Am I overworking?
- > Do I need more income, or lower expenses, or both?
- ➤ Is poor planning/control my problem?
- > Am I "unlucky"?

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Plan Your Spending

- Diligence in planning is required (Prov. 27:23-27; Prov. 6:6-11)
- > Setting priorities is important (Prov. 24:27)
- > Jesus indicates wisdom of planning (Luke 14:28-30)

Plan Your Spending

- > Blueprint
- Budget/Spending Plan/Cash Flow Plan
 - Regular planning meetings
 - ➤ Monthly? By pay period?
 - ➤ Unity in planning
 - > Flexibility in planning
 - > Contingency planning
 - ➤ Planning for fun

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Plan Your Spending

- Career planning (one income?)
- Debt reduction plan
- > Savings plans
- > Insurance (Eccl. 7:12)
- > Retirement
- > Will (Prov. 13:22)

Control Your Spending

- Great plans still have to be implemented
- Managed money goes further
- > Paper or plastic?
- Quicken®? Notebook? Envelopes? Apps?
- > Emergency fund
- > The closer to the edge, the more control
- "A penny saved ..."

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Listen to Counsel

"Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Proverbs 11:14

Listen to Counsel

- > Look for help
- > Find successful, experienced role models (Job 12:12)
- Don't turn your back on wisdom (Rehoboam)
- > Read!

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Persevere

- Look for motivators
- > Remember the ants
- > Accountability partner
- > Track your progress
- > Have some fun
- Check your priorities!
- > Read
- > Pray!