

7 Principles To Release Blessing In And Around You

What kind of principles do you live your life by? Blessed people do not become that way by accident. They have chosen intentionally to live according to the truths in God's Word. The following 30 principles are ones which, when put into practice, will help you to live a life that is truly blessed.

1. The Principle of Knowing That God Owns It All

The silver is mine and the gold is mine, declares the LORD Almighty.
Haggai 2:8-9 NIV

Not only is the silver and the gold the Lord's, but *everything* belongs to God. So why not give it all to Him? Paul says in I Corinthians 4:2 that it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. A steward is simply a manager of someone else's money and possessions. We give it all back to God and manage it as He would have us to.

For every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.
Psalm 50:10 NIV

A successful businessperson by the name of R.G. LeTourneau was in the business of manufacturing earth-moving equipment. As his business grew and prospered, he decided to increase his tithe over and above the tenth. In time, he eventually increased his giving to ninety percent of his income and lived on the rest. Instead of giving the tenth, he lived on the tenth. God blessed this man bountifully and used his inventive God-given genius and creativity to reach the world for the gospel. While there are many great giving scriptures in the Bible, none seems more specific than the directive that every person should give what is in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion. Mr. LeTourneau certainly recognized the value of II Corinthians 9:7 and that it was God who gave him the power to gain wealth.

2. The Principle of Giving from the Top

Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.
Genesis 14:20 NIV

Abraham tithed the tenth before any other commitment was made. Jacob paid a tithe. Joseph instructed the people to prepare for years of famine by tithing 20 percent on their current abundance of harvest. Zaccheus gave one half of all his money. Barnabas gave

a parcel of land. The widow gave all that she had. Whatever we give, either the tenth or beyond the tenth, it should be given from the start, off the top, before we commit to anything else. Proverbs 3:9 directs us to honor the Lord with our wealth by giving the first of all our produce. The Jews were told to dedicate the first-born son and the first-born beast to God. It was all to be given from the top.

3. The Principle of Supernatural Provision

So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah.

I Kings 17:15-16 NKJV

Supernatural provision happens when the natural is not enough. If we can make it happen on our own, there is no need for faith. No need for trusting God. And it follows that if we do not have faith and have no need for God, He will not step into areas that we have reserved for our own self-control. The principle of supernatural provision is that He is strong when flesh cannot be.

“If we can make it happen on our own, there is no need for faith.”

4. The Principle of Being Proactive

Go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth.

Matthew 17:27 NIV

We are to take action—to be pro-active. The abilities and giftings that He provides motivate us to action. Sometimes, it takes our persistence in doing the same things faithfully with the heart of a servant. Other times, it is useful to try new things or new methods and seek after new opportunities. Sometimes, it is the steady plodding that brings the success of the blessed life. Ecclesiastes 9:11 says, “The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all” (NIV). Hebrews 12:1-2 advises, “...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...” (NIV). Proverbs 21:5 instructs us that, “Steady plodding brings prosperity; hasty speculation brings poverty” (TLB).

Taking action, being proactive and not giving up are principles for living the life of a blessed person.

5. The Principle of Knowing How to Be Content

But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

1 Timothy 6:8-9 NIV

Millions of people today are on a quest to accumulate possessions and even wealth. It is hard for all of us to be content with what we have when the world's entire system is geared toward making us unhappy with everything we don't have. From advertising to attitude, we face a discontented culture. How much money is enough? Usually, just a little bit more. Money cannot buy contentment or happiness. We need to strive for contentment and contend for happiness.

There is certainly nothing wrong with making money, as long as we do not violate the laws of our land and the principles of God's Word. The all-for-me and none-for-others way of man's thinking is immoral. The person of principle who subscribes to the values of the Bible will be a good steward who obeys the law of giving. This person will find happiness in exact proportion to his giving. He will be content with his life and all that it affords.

6. The Principle of Resisting World Views

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you.

Romans 12:2 TLB

We must resist the world's view of wealth, happiness and possessions. We do not have to have it all! Our culture and society have sold us a bill of goods. They teach us that in order to be happy, we have to have certain things. We must resist the world's view of wealth, happiness and possessions. We do not have to have it all! We don't have to wear just the right clothes, drive that certain brand of car, have the latest model available, buy a bigger home, own six televisions, possess the latest camera and carry a dozen credit cards in our wallet. We must not allow the world to dictate to us their view of what things our life should consist of. The world should not be allowed to determine our lifestyle. The world should not tell us what success is and what the picture of affluence

should look like. Success is doing what God wants done. It is having only what you need to exist on. Wealth is more than money. It is having a local church that inspires you to draw close to God. It is having a loving spouse and the blessing of children. Wealth is enjoying great health, great relationships and friends. You can experience great success and great wealth as long as your giving is in proportion to your getting.

7. The Principle of Plenty Left Over

God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more so that there will not only be enough for your own needs but plenty left over to give joyfully to others.

II Corinthians 9:8-9 TLB

It's not about God making you rich just because you tithe regularly. However, God has promised to meet your needs. That promise may come by way of a job so that you can work hard and provide for your family. When you give, it is with complete confidence that God is faithful to His Word. You can trust Him to take care of you. You can trust him with your whole heart and your whole mind; you can trust Him with your life. Some of us find it easier to trust God for eternity than for today's bills and tomorrow's problems. When it comes to giving, we must do so in complete confidence that our God will not only meet our needs, but allow us to have plenty left over so that we can joyfully share it with others.