

The Exchanger

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THE NEWSLETTER
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BIBLE CHURCH
WHITE ROCK

The Mission of
FBCWR:
*Connecting People
to God's Life-
Changing Power*

*We've Got
Connections!*

*And I say to you, make
friends for yourselves
by means of the wealth
of unrighteousness, so
that when it fails, they
will receive you into the
eternal dwellings.*

Luke 16:9

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Step Up

Wouldn't it be nice if God's people and His churches were exempt from downturns? Peter Jennings would open his broadcast with: "Comptek laid off 5,000 people today, but once again, not one born-again Christian lost their job". Yeah, right. Reality 101 is in session. Counted among those in attendance are many of His children.

Sure, God is good all the time, yet that doesn't release us from the pinch. Tough times test us in ways nothing else will, but these very times *can* cause many good things to happen:

1) We re-examine our values.

Relationships and people should be more important than things or experiences anyway. When finances aren't flowing, we are more likely to have a game night at home than run out to a \$50 movie.

2) We re-think our priorities.

This may come as a surprise but it is OK to say "no" to the next indulgence that catches our kid's or our own eye. When we are forced to be selective with the checkbook, we may come face-to-face with our routine spoiledness.

3) We re-focus our direction.

One of God's severe mercies is that He allows the sand to sink so we scramble for the Rock. Just as stock markets have "corrections" that chase away in-

flated and therefore dangerous hopes so God has a way of catching our attention. It's like a mother exhorting a wayward and distracted child, "Look at me in the face". He corrects our direction by forcing us to focus on what is lasting. Shall we ignore Jesus' advice and lay up treasures on earth? Perhaps He knows of what He speaks when He says to invest in eternal goals. He promises to reward.



So, as your church's purse absorbs the blows of this downturn, realize we need to fight for something that produces lasting dividends. Now is the time to put our money where our heart is, to make sacrifices and make this church a priority. God will more than cover our financial backs. He promises.

"Small" Steps

We can say, "Oh, God will take care of our church's finances", but will you "Step up" and be a part of His provision? Again, Jesus said money is a small thing. Small in the sense that mastering it is like spiritual kindergarten. But Jesus talked about money more than any other topic because though it is small, we can make it soooo big that we can't let go of it. Step up!

-Joe Fornear