

Today, we continue our "Getting My Life in Order" series by focusing on a topic that affects every one of us our finances. God's Word has a lot to say about how we manage money, and Proverbs offers both wisdom and balance in how we honor Him with what we have. This isn't just about budgeting or giving—it's about aligning our hearts and priorities with God's purposes. People often feel defensive or guilty when discussing money because finances are personal and frequently tied to deeper issues like control, trust, or shame. Today's discussion aims to offer a balanced, biblical view of finances, steering clear of prosperity and poverty extremes. The Bible emphasizes freedom, not guilt, through planned generosity and God-honoring stewardship. By aligning our finances with God's principles, any discomfort we feel about this topic can turn into peace and purpose.

Key Passage: Proverbs 3:9-10

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. What does it mean to honor the Lord with your wealth? Why does this idea appear first in our passage on managing our money?
- 2. What is the biblical significance of "first fruits"? How can we apply this today?
- 3. How does planned giving differ from spontaneous giving? Why is planned giving so important?
- 4. What promises does Scripture give about generosity? How should these promises shape our view of giving?
- 5. How can debt be damaging to our spiritual and emotional well-being?
- 6. What are some signs that greed may be taking root in a person's life? How can we counteract greed?
- 7. Why is contentment so crucial in the Christian life, especially regarding finances?
- 8. How does giving reflect where our heart truly is, according to Jesus' teaching?