



Stewardship Kaleidoscope

When the
money
story we tell
ourselves gets
in the way
of effective
fundraising.

PRAYER

Gracious God,
We release our hearts to you.
First, we remove the pressure,
For release requires the freedom to be moved.
Then we allow our hearts to return to their original resting position—
In sync with you, with the rhythm of summer cicadas, and this whole wild creation.
Then, we pray that you will find our hearts available—
Not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually.

So like the mockingbird releases her song, We release our hearts to you.
Move in them.
Stir us awake.
Speak to us now.
We are waiting.
Amen.

— Sarah Are

THE BIBLE

The Bible speaks a lot about money and possessions:

- Roughly 2,350 verses in Bible
- Common theme throughout law and prophets
- Trademark of God's people—care for the poor and needy
- Jesus continued biblical tradition about money and possessions
- One of every seven verses in first three gospels
- About one-third (16 of 38) parables
- 15% of everything Jesus said
- Twice as much as prayer and faith combined
- Only Kingdom of God gets more attention—much in terms of money

And yet, according to Walter Brueggeman: “Jesus was commending and performing an economy that was sure to collide with established economic patterns and with those who presided over and benefited from such patterns. His term for the alternative economy was “kingdom of God,” that is, a social practice and a set of social relationships that are congruent with the God on the covenantal Torah of ancient Israel.”

REACH. RAISE. REIMAGINE.



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EXERCISE

What was your memory?

How old were you?

Where were you?

How did you respond?

What did you learn?

What feelings emerge?



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RESOURCES

- *Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy* by Dr. Dustin D. Benac and Erin Weber-Johnson
- *Money and Possessions in the Interpretation Series* by Dr. Walter Brueggeman
- *The Gift: How the Creative Spirit Transforms the World* by Lewis Hyde
- *The Soul of Money* by Lynne Twist
- *The Unjust Steward: Wealth, Poverty, and the Church Today* by Miguel Escobar
- *Always With Us: What Jesus Really Said About the Poor* by Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis
- **Our Money Story** by A Sanctified Art and Vandersall Collective as guest contributors
sanctifiedart.org/our-money-story-stewardship-bundle
- **Emotional Currency: How Money Shapes Human Relationships**
npr.org/2020/01/10/795246685/emotional-currency-how-money-shapes-human-relationships
- **Lectures at Lake Institute**
lakeinstitute.org/annual-events/thomas-h-lake-lecture/
- **Vandersall Collective Resources**
vandersallcollective.com/resources

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