



Hey Parents!

We are excited for you to grow together as a family during *The Art of Living Well*. It is never too early to start teaching your children what it looks like to be good stewards of all that God has given them. There are four different parts to this resource to help you grow with your children.

- **Opener** – *The goal of this time is to get your children thinking about the Big Idea.*
- **Scripture** – *What does God’s Word say about the Big Idea. Teaching them to respect the Bible will help them choose to go there first as they continue to grow.*
- **Hands-On Family Moment** – *Involve them in the series by doing a Family Moment together each week. Many of the weeks go hand-in-hand and can be used after the series is done. All ages can be involved in this, even if you have your preschoolers color or “add to” what you put together.*
- **Prayer** – *Teaching your children to talk to and listen to God through prayer is a spiritual discipline that will become second nature to them and value God’s voice above the rest.*

If you ever have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out: Jalonna@whoisgrace.com

Ways you can use this Family Resource:

- This could be done as a family devotional time during the week.
- You could bring the kids together and through one or two sections (maybe opener question and prayer or opener and scripture) during LifeGroup and do the Family Moment at home.
- You could do the Family Moment as a LifeGroup.

Additional resources for families:

- [Smart Money Smart Kids: Raising the Next Generation to Win with Money](#) – Dave Ramsey and Rachel Cruze
- [Junior's Adventures: the Boxed Set by Dave Ramsey](#)
- *Financial Peace University*
- *RightNow Media*



THE ART OF LIVING WELL

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 13, 2020

Opener: *Have a piece of paper or a white board divided into two sides.*

Ask – What are some things you want in life? Write answers with material possessions on the left side of the paper/board and answers of eternal significance on the right side.

Note: Most answers will probably be materialistic in nature. Follow up with, “What are some things you think God wants for you in your life?” Continue writing down their answers on the appropriate sides.

Scripture:

Ask: What is more important? What we want in our life or what God wants for us in our life?

Read [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#)

-In the first verse, there are two big words: godliness and contentment.

-What is godliness? (Listen for answers first) Godliness is being like God. Living life in such a way that you become more and more like God each day and living out the Fruit of the Spirit.

-What is contentment? (Listen for answers first) Contentment is being happy with what you have and not needing or wanting everything you see and hear about.

-Reread verses 6-7. Why is godliness with contentment good for us? What do we really need to live? (We come into this world with nothing and leave with nothing. We really only need food and clothes)

-What happens to a person who is not happy with just food and clothing? Read verses 9-10 and point out some of those strong and scary words (snare, ruin, destruction).

Becoming rich does not mean bad things will happen. But to desire or have to have those things means that we are not content and will never have enough to be happy.

Hands-On: *Family Moment*

-Talk about the Dream board challenge- start to share some of your dreams and ideas.

-Print off and color [this page](#). For older children, have them draw out or write out more of the list of things they want and think about a lot (toys, video games, technology, good friends, etc).

Prayer:

Look at the list on the paper/board. Materialistic vs Eternal Value

-Ask the kids to look at the lists and decide if their heart will be most content and happy with the material things or the eternal things.

-Have them write down a prayer asking God to give them a heart for what He cares about most and to help them want the same things.

-Take time to thank God for what He has provided for them.



THE ART OF LIVING WELL

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 20, 2020

Engagement:

Think about all of the stuff God has blessed you with. Draw and/or talk about 5 things that you have a lot of! Think about each space in your house (i.e. clothes/shoes, craft supplies, toys, etc).

Scripture:

Read [Proverbs 28:25](#)

-God appeared to King Solomon and said “ask for whatever you want me to give you”. What would you ask God for?

-King Solomon’s answer was “give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people..” His focus wasn’t to get more stuff but to be more wise. What do you think God did? (He blessed Solomon by giving him wisdom – 1 Kings 4:29 *and* wealth – 2 Chronicles 1:7-12).

-King Solomon talks about how the greedy (being really selfish and focusing on self and having more) cause conflict and don’t get along with others. Why do you think greed causes conflict?

-The last part of verse 25 says “but those who trust in the Lord will prosper”. What does it look like to trust God with your stuff and your life?

Hands-On: *Family Moment:*

Create a dream board as a family. What goals do you have (as a family and individually)? What might need to change in your life? What does prayer look like?

If you are at home...

Take 15-30 minutes and have everybody start off by taking two bags to your bedroom and “clearing out” things that you don’t need anymore. Ask yourself: What do I not need or play with anymore? Who can I bless? Why do I still have this? What is trash? Have a donation bag and a trash bag.

Prayer:

Use short, sentence prayers with the whole group using the ACTS method.

Adoration prompt- *Let’s praise God for who He is and not just what He gives us*

Confession prompt- *Let’s confess where we focus more on stuff than God.*

Thanksgiving prompt- *Let’s thank the Lord for how much He loves us and provides for us.*

Supplication prompt- *Let’s ask God to give us hearts to know Him more than have stuff.*



THE ART OF LIVING WELL

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 27, 2020

Engagement:

- How many of you get an allowance? What do you get it for? What do you do with that money?
- What are some hard jobs you do around the house or for others? Share some jobs you love to do and some that you really do not like.

Scripture:

Read [Proverbs 21:5](#)

- What do you think “plans of the diligent lead to abundance” means? (hardworking people create plans and they see fruit from it)
- What do you think the second part of that verse means? (those who just spend without having a plan or money lose it all and live in poverty).

Read [Proverbs 10:4](#)

- Solomon says that those who work hard will be rich but those who are lazy will have nothing.
- Paul says in 2 Thessalonians 3:10 that if a man will not work, he will not eat. Money doesn’t grow on trees but comes from hard work.
- What are some ways that you work hard at home...without being asked by your parents or grown up in your home?

Hands-On: *Family Moment*

Parents... Post a list of chores on your refrigerator and call it “For Hire”. Beside each job, include the amount to be paid for the work and how frequently – for example, pulling weeds (once a month in summer), scrubbing tub or shower (once a week). Let your child know that paid labor is evaluated by inspecting his or her work after it’s done and reducing pay is quality doesn’t meet expectations. Ideal “chores for hire” are the jobs that are occasional and cause extra work. Your child will learn hard work and see the fruit of their labor.

Prayer:

Have each child draw a picture of themselves and write sentence prayers/words (ideas below)

- By their mouth– *Thank God for giving them a mouth to build up and not complain*
- By their hands – *Pray that they would use their hands to work hard*
- By their feet – *Pray they would go where God is guiding them to help others*



THE ART OF LIVING WELL

Pastor Derek Sanford

October 4, 2020

Engagement:

- If you created a family dream board, What are some big things you wrote down? (vacation, car, trip)
- What is something that would take a long time to save your money for? How do you do or are you doing with waiting?

Scripture:

Read [Proverbs 6:6](#)

- Solomon talks about an ant who works hard. They prepare for winter and store up their food. Have you ever watched an ant work? Check out this 1-minute video: [Ants working](#)
- How many of you save your money or spend it right away?

Hands-On: *Family Moment*

Have each child create “*Spend, Give, and Save*” jars or envelopes. They can decorate the jars or envelopes and either keep them in their room or by the Dream Board your family created. It helps to have each child create their own jars as each one will handle their money differently. Have them think about each jar and what they represent and come up with ideas of ways that money might be used. Share with your children a plan on how they can begin to spend, give and save. If you don’t give your children an allowance, this would be a great time to start small!

Helpful Tip:: If you give a child \$5, teach them to put \$1 in Give, \$2-3 in Save and \$2-3 in Spend.

Prayer:

- Spend time thanking God for His blessings and asking Him to help you be wise with your money.
- Spend – *Help me to spend my money on things that are wise.*
 - Give – *Help me to remember that all that I have is yours, God! I want to give back to you and to others.*
 - Save – *Help me to save for the things that I need instead of spending on the things I always want.*



THE ART OF LIVING WELL

Pastor Derek Sanford

October 11, 2020

Engagement:

-How many of you started to put money in your “Spend, Give, and Save” jars or envelopes? Tell us about it! What is the easiest jar to put your money in?

Scripture:

Read [Proverbs 3:9-10](#)

-Solomon reminds us to honor God with our first fruits. All we have is already His!

-When we talk about tithing, it’s not just giving God money. It’s about us remembering that everything we have is His. So we need to trust Him with everything and give back.

Hands-On: *Family Moment:*

Talk about the “Give” jar or envelope as a family and talk about some specific ways you can give. Each week, GraceKids collects money the children bring in for tithing and that money goes to support children in our partner church in Haiti so they can go to school where they will grow and also learn more about God.

You can teach the importance of giving by organizing a family or LifeGroup mission project. This doesn’t mean you have to travel to another country. Simply give your kids contact with people who have more physical and economic needs than your family does. This might include delivering meals for a food ministry or “Meals on Wheels” project, volunteering to serve in a soup kitchen or homeless shelter, sponsoring a child through Compassion or World Vision or another organization.

Prayer:

Spend time thanking God for all He has given you and remember that all we have is already His.

-Take time to pray for others – pastors and leaders in the church, those who are in need, a child you’re sponsoring, etc.

-Ask God to help you have eyes to see others you can help.



THE ART OF LIVING WELL

Pastor Derek Sanford

October 18, 2020

Engagement:

- Let's celebrate some ways you and your family have learned about living well during this series and ways God has helped change your thoughts on money and your view of stuff! (Give space for them to answer) Some ideas might include remembering to thank God for all He's given you, learning to work hard, saving/giving your money, praying for others, etc.
- Parents or leaders, share some celebration stories of choices you've made in the past that helped you be wise with your money and reap the benefits now!

Scripture:

Read [Lamentations 3:22-25](#)

- Nothing changes God's love for us. We can trust Him with the good times and the bad times and be confident that He loves us and is caring for us! That is worth celebrating.

Hands-On: *Family Moment*

Prayer:

God always answers our prayers! He answers in 3 ways: Yes, No and Not Today

- Take time to thank God for His love for you!
- As you pray for the different jars and the people in your life, ask God to give you patience as you save, a cheerful heart to give and wisdom as you spend.