

GOD NEVER BLINKS

Lesson 5 - Pay off your credit cards every month

Another in the series based on the popular book by Regina Brett

She said . . . my dad paid cash

Keith Haigh told us, two years ago the same thing (1 Tim 6)

(I)f we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For **the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil**, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

No extras ... But everything we needed

Need vs. Want

My first credit card

Kmart, pot in London Ontario

Feeling of power

Discipline

It's ok to put things back on the shelf

Sometimes clicking is just too easy (Kindle)

First, change in thinking

then change in behaviour

- If only we got a raise/married money
- Money problems are never about money - its how we behave
- Getting out of debt doesn't come by winning the lottery
- Living an abundant life starts with a raise in consciousness and goes from there
- Smart choices lead to long-term gratification

Matthew 6:19-21

Change in thinking, change in behaviour

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Mark 10:21-22

Transformed life, an experience of freedom

Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Matthew 6:28-33

An ideal, yes, it's possible to live this way - God/Creation/Community - will provide

(I)f God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

- The problem is that the community has yet to accept these tenets.

- Markets are fundamentally based on competition and not reciprocal sharing and interchange.
- Divine providence, expressed through creation is not well understood or appreciated, even denied.

As we seek to change our own thinking and behaviour, so we are called to influence public policy, attitude and practice. This is not easy work, it's the tiring work of justice seeking and making. And yes, for my *money*, it's the most important work to be done today.

Thanks be to God