



Focusing on relationships over things also can cause you to reconsider your purchasing and work decisions. Isaiah 55:2 asks the question, “Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?” Do you ever feel like you’re working hard to pay off debt for purchases that weren’t essential and didn’t even satisfy? How could you simplify your expenses and make them more consistent with your family priorities in this season of life?

### **STEP THREE: Re-orient your fears and desires**

People with various relationship goals—wanting to get married, considering starting a family or wanting to help a child through a tough season—may not realize just how much those goals can be undermined by a consumer-driven culture playing on their fears and desires.

God tells us we shouldn’t fear what the world fears (1 Peter 1:17 and 3:13-15) or desire what it desires (2 Peter 1:3-8). What would it look like in your life if you re-oriented your fears and desires toward God’s design? The more you look to Him for your security and provisions (1 Peter 5:7 and Philippians 4:19), the more you are directed to the eternal relationships around you (Ephesians 3:14-19 and John 13:34-35). Allowing God to re-direct your fears and desires frees you up to invest in family and to give generously to other families who are praying for God’s provision.

## **GOING FURTHER - Resources**

### **Recommended Books:**

***The New Master Your Money*** (by Jeremy White and Ron Blue) offers a financial planning book that presents concepts in an easy-to-understand format. Do you know if you have enough? Do you know how much is enough?

***The Treasure Principle*** (by Randy Alcorn) explores Jesus teaching on our finances - something about which he had more to say than most topics, including heaven.

### **Recommended Websites:**

**[DaveRamsey.com](http://DaveRamsey.com)**: *Financial Peace University* (FPU) is Dave's life-changing program that teaches you to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before.

**[Crown.org](http://Crown.org)**: is sponsored by Crown Financial Ministries and provides a variety of articles, online tools and resources for those who want to become more intentional about managing their money.

**[Compass1.org](http://Compass1.org)** Compass—finances God’s way, is a worldwide non-profit interdenominational ministry that teaches people of all ages how to handle money based on the principles of the Bible.

**[Debtproofliving.com](http://Debtproofliving.com)** Debt-Proof Living: A proven money management plan to help you get out of debt—and stay out. Sound strategies that will change your life.

**[Nodebtnosweat.com/category/articles](http://Nodebtnosweat.com/category/articles)** Our goal is simple: We want to help you get your money under control and get out of debt so you can do things God's way!

**[Soundmindinvesting.com](http://Soundmindinvesting.com)** Steward your resources according to biblical teaching.