

Bert den Hertog MSc

THE BLIND SPOT OF THE CHURCH



MY FAMILY



FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP



BERT DEN HERTOOG MSC



- General Secretary
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- Director Compass
Netherlands
- Trainer/coach in the
area of debt
counselling, living
from enough and
generosity



SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

- Raised up in a reformed family
- Teenager: inspired by Francis Schaeffer – three statements
- Life question: What is the relevance of the gospel today?
- Involved in business and ministries
- John 4
- Since 2013: Compass



PROGRAM

Introduction

Why should we talk about money?

What does the Bible says about money?

How do we talk about money?

Conclusions



INTERVIEW

Interview the person next to you and discover:

- Background
- Motivation to be here today
- Personal best/worst financial experience



1) Why should we talk about money in the church?



PRACTICAL REASONS

- Needs of people in the church
- Needs of people outside the church
- No education in teaching about money and possessions in churches: blind spot
- No education for theologians
- Special sensitive for pastors



SPIRITUAL REASONS

Money can be a major competitor
(Math 6:24)



SPIRITUAL REASONS

Money problems can make the Word unfruitful (Mark 4: 18-19)



SPIRITUAL REASONS

Money is a spiritual indicator (Math 6:21)



SPIRITUAL REASONS

Money can be a root of many problems
(1 Tim 6:10)



SPIRITUAL REASONS

Debt is slavery (Proverbs 22:7)



SPIRITUAL REASONS

Money is a spiritual indicator (Luke 16:10-12)



QUESTION

What are the obsticals in a) yourself and b) your country and c) your church to talk about money?

- Take a minute for yourself
- Share your thoughts with your neighbour/small group
- Plenary



MONEY THE BIG TABOO

Is there also a taboo in your church?

What does a taboo – spiritual – means?



OUR PERSONAL CALLING

To use our God given resources (time, talent, treasures) for His purposes in His way for His glory



OUR LEADERSHIP CALLING

To teach people the **whole** message
of the Word of God



POTENTIAL FRUITS OF FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP

Free *from*: worry, anxiety, debt burdens,
stress and materialism.

Free *to*: grow in generosity, to serve and
enjoy fellowship with the Lord and one
and another



MORE ARGUMENTS

- 2350 verses about money and possessions
- More than 50% of the parables of Jesus
- 15% of the teaching of Jesus

Q: What is the difference with our church practice?



CONCLUSIONS

Money is one of the **big** concerns in the Word of God



2) What does the Bible teach about money and possessions?



SOME THOUGHTS

1. Everything is from the Lord: He is the owner.
2. I am the manager



SOME THOUGHTS

3. The risk of idolatry

What is idolatry?



IDOLATRY

Definition (Tim Keller): *putting something else in the place of God, often something that humans have made themselves*

- Competition
- Trust
- False promises



SOME THOUGHTS

4) Contentment

- What is enough for you?

5) Generosity



DISCUSSION

Q&A



3) HOW ADDRESS THE TOPIC?

Brainstorm:

What will work in your country?

What will not work?



CONCLUSION

**Financial discipleship is
not a task to be done but
a way of living**



Thank you so much for your attention

