

Sermon Reflection Sheet: Fearless Finances - "Spirit of Poverty"

The Spirit of Poverty

- Define the spirit of poverty according to **John 10:10**.
- Reflect on the opposition between the spirit of poverty and the abundant life offered by Christ.
- Consider how the spirit of poverty attacks not only finances but also the soul (mind, will, emotions).

Characteristics of the Spirit of Poverty

- Examine your life for signs of a poverty spirit: hopelessness, fear, victim mindset, instant gratification, financial tension, inability to get ahead, lottery mentality.
- Reflect on any of these characteristics that may be present in your life.

How the Spirit of Poverty Gains Entrance

- Consider **Ephesians 4:27-32** and its warning against giving the devil a foothold.
- Reflect on how agreement with the spirit of poverty can lead to its entrance into your life.
- Evaluate your speech and attitudes to ensure they align with building up others and not providing an opportunity for the enemy.
- Consider Malachi 3:8-12 and what God has to say about our tithes and offerings.
- Evaluate your current level of giving

Repent, Resist, Return

- Reflect on **1 John 1:6-9** and the role of repentance in restoring fellowship and purifying from sin.
- Consider areas in your life where repentance is needed to break agreement with the spirit of poverty.
- Examine **2 Corinthians 10:3-5** and the weapons available to resist the spirit of poverty.
- Evaluate your thought life and bring every thought captive to Christ.

Return: Becoming a Giver

- Reflect on the call to return to God's ways.
- Examine your giving habits and consider taking steps to break the spirit of poverty:
 - If you've never given, consider becoming a first-time giver.
 - If you give irregularly, commit to becoming a regular giver.
 - If you're not tithing, consider taking steps to become a tither (1%, 3%, 5%, 10%).
 - Consider becoming a generous giver.

Prayer Points:

- Ask God for the discernment to identify any areas where the spirit of poverty may have gained entrance.
- Pray for the strength to repent and resist the spirit of poverty.
- Seek God's guidance on how you can grow in generosity and align with His abundance.