

Show Me the Money, Part 4

Ten Pillars to Financial Success
Conviction vs. Compromise, Part 9

Continued from Part 3, GN 1049

WORD BASIS FOR PILLARS 8–10
—AND MORE!

8. Appreciate and Preserve God's Blessings

▼ Verses

Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful (1Cor. 4:2).

A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast ... He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread (Pro. 12:10–11).

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster (Pro.18:9).

Who giveth food to all flesh ... O give thanks unto the God of Heaven (Psa.136:25–26).

[The story of the loaves and the fishes. After Jesus "gave thanks," the food was multiplied and fed "four thousand men, besides women and children."] (Mat.15:32–38).

[Parable of the talents] Mat.25:13–30.

And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? (Luk.12:42).

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own? (Luk.16:10,12).



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▼ Quotes

404. (Dad:) Let's be good stewards of God's gifts. When God finds He can trust you with tiny little things like a few pennies' postage, He'll give you more! (ML #60:16, Vol.1).

405. (Dad:) If we are willfully or woefully ignorant, careless, negligent and slothful stewards, then He will sometimes allow us to suffer for it by learning a bitter lesson as a result of it! (ML #110:8, Vol.1).

406. (Dad:) There are a lot of things God could give us if we could be trusted with them! But if you can't be trusted as a good steward with a ministry, a responsibility, a message, a method, money, health, popularity, power, or freedom, etc., God's apt to take these things away from you entirely until you learn your lesson! ... The special privileges of His service and these other things are a privilege, a blessing, and a reward, and can be withdrawn from you at any time by the Lord if you are abusing it, instead of using it for His glory! So beware! (ML #143:32, Vol.1).

407. (Dad:) You're supposed to take care of ... those things God has given you to use for His glory, and be good stewards of them, as they belong to the Lord! (ML #155:24, Vol.2).

408. (Dad:) Let's also be more faithful stewards and diligent caretakers of the materials, resources, properties, provisions, vehicles, etc., which the Lord gives or loans to us for His use! Let's have no more of the slothfulness, neglect, wastefulness, carelessness, negligence and downright foolish extravagance of which some of you have been terribly guilty! Let's take much better care of what God has already given us so He will be able to trust us with more so we can do a better and bigger job in the future! He that is faithful in a few things He will make ruler over many things, but he that is faithless in that which is least will also be faithless in that which is much, and cannot be trusted with more! (ML #197:23, Vol.2).

409. (Dad:) Financial problems are often due to the fact, besides many other things, that when you had it you didn't use it wisely, but were wasteful and extravagant.

410. When you find yourself in a financial bind, and you haven't got the money ... you're either: (1) not desperate, (2) wasteful, or (3) disobedient!

411. God is sick and tired of giving you things you don't take care of! Your attitude often seems to be: It doesn't matter! I can wreck it and tear it up, and God will just give me another one! Nothing will turn off your donors more than to see what poor care you take of what they give you! But nothing encourages your donors to give more than to see how meticulous you are—to see what excellent care you take of things!

412. The attitude some of you have is: The more you spend extravagantly, the more God will give! Some people have the attitude: That's what it's for! Spend it! God's got lots of it! But saving money is a part of good stewardship.

413. If you have to buy food, you should look for bargains. Never get out of the habit of pinching the pennies. ... Keeping things clean is [also] a part of your stewardship. (ML #212:16–17,21, 23, 27, Vol.2).

414. (Dad:) [God] works largely on rewards, on a merit system as to whether people can be trusted with it or not. If they're faithful in a few things, He gives them many things. But if they are not even faithful in a few things, He's not going to give them any more! He's apt to take away the few things they've got if they're not faithful with them.

415. God goes by who deserves it the most, even if they may have more than the other fellow who has less! Because often the fellow who has less, has less because he hasn't been faithful with what he had, like the fellow who buried his talent. Or he hasn't worked as hard as the other fellow.

416. God just doesn't believe in giving to people who are just a waste to give it to them, who won't get as much accomplished with what you give them, even the little you give them or even the much you give them, as the guy who no matter how little you give him or how much,

he'll invest it wisely and make it pay commensurately. (ML #1028:3,4,28, Vol.9).

417. (Dad:) No more wastefulness! If you're not saving enough and trustworthy enough, a good steward of God's material blessings and thankful enough, grateful enough and not murmuring and complaining and bellyaching about it, then you don't deserve it! (ML #2460:54, DB 7).

418. (Mama:) It's especially important to keep an attitude of praise and thanksgiving flowing through your Home and not allow murmuring and discontent to go unchecked. Murmuring can cause the Lord to dry up His fountains of supply real quickly, so keep praising!

419. Be a good steward. Remember God's principle, if you're faithful over few things, He will make you ruler over many! Besides your praise and thanksgiving, how do you show the Lord that you're appreciative and thankful for what He's already given you?—By taking good care of it, by being a faithful steward.

420. Another way of being a good steward is to be saving, to practice the principles of frugality that Dad has taught us in so many Letters.—To avoid waste, to always look for the best deals, to try to get the most for your (the Lord's) money. (ML #2813:20,22–23, Lifelines 20).

421. (Jesus:) Be My priests, faithful with My blessings, for these provisions that I bring to My house are to grow and prosper My work. They belong to Me, and you as My servant should be faithful with the things of My house, for it is the house of God and you are as servants in the household of God. (ML #3245:92, GN 847).

▼ New Message

422. (Jesus speaking:) Many of you, My brides, have become so familiar with My blessings. For many, many years now you've been used to Me supplying finances, provisions, equipment, housing, and so much more, but you forget to thank Me. You overlook many of My little blessings and gifts that I bestow upon you every day. You take My miracles for granted and

don't praise and thank Me nearly enough. How do you think this makes Me feel? Unappreciated, unnoticed, and like you just don't care! It doesn't make Me want to give you more when you're not even grateful for what you have.

423. You brush aside My blessings, always wanting more, demanding bigger and better blessings and more money for your needs. But what you're forgetting is that praising Me pleases Me—even when you're abasing. Praising Me for every blessing, no matter how small, compels Me to give more to you. When I know you're thankful and giving Me the glory and honor for everything, I want to give you more, I delight to give you more, and I can't help but pamper you with My care, for I love to give of My wealth to you.

424. I also look to see how you care for the material blessings I've given you. Do you trash your vehicles and overlook their upkeep and maintenance? Are they a reproach to your Home and My Name? Are your Homes dirty and unkempt? When things are broken and a bad sample, do you fix them or let things deteriorate to total ruin?

425. What about the provisions I supply for you? Do you murmur and complain because it's not your favorite food, or because you have an abundance of one thing and not as much variety as you'd like? Or do you waste what I give you—whether food, money, or time? Are you extravagant with the money I supply, thinking that because I own the cattle on a thousand hills and the wealth in every mine that I will always have more to give you? Have you forgotten what it means to be thrifty?

426. Yes, it's true that I am a rich and blessing-laden Husband, but I don't give into purses or pockets full of holes. I give the most where I know it will be used and invested in My work to the maximum—where I know every cent will count and be used wisely. I give to those who I know will be good stewards and caretakers of the things you need in your service to Me.

427. How are you taking care of what I've given you? How much are you praising Me and thanking Me for My miracles of supply? Have you become familiar with receiving from Me, to where you no longer appreciate or acknowledge

My generosity? Have you become like a spoiled child who wants to take, hoard, and receive, and hardly ever says, “Thank You”? Take a good look at your life and your Home. Are you going to appreciate and care for what I give you, or will it waste away, rot, deteriorate, be destroyed, and end up in ruin?

428. I’m not in the business of pouring money down the drain, or dropping gifts of supply into a bottomless pit. I’m interested in building works that will last, investing in Homes that are really doing the job of winning the world, and raining blessings down upon those who appreciate every drop. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

▼ New Keys Promises

429. Call on the keys of good stewardship, to be faithful custodians of the gifts and blessings I have given you, and then I will see fit to bless you with more.

430. When you praise Me, thank Me, and actively show your gratitude and thanks, I am compelled out of love to turn the keys of My supply and open to you the vaults of heavenly riches.

431. When you prove to Me that you’re a worthy investment and that you treasure and care for what I give, I will grant you your needs and wants through My powerful keys of supply and provision.

432. I am in control of the riches of this world, and My keys of supply will unleash as much of that cash into your hands as you need, if you are faithful, diligent, and wise with what I have already given you.

433. Call on the keys to be faithful, diligent and praiseful, and I will bless you financially, materially, and spiritually.

▼ ASSIGNMENT

434. Get together as a Home and discuss how you fare in appreciating God’s blessings. Ask yourselves the following questions, answer them honestly, and then hear from the Lord about how you can do better in your weak areas:

Do you have praises on your lips and in your hearts? Or have you become familiar with the Lord’s blessings to where you no longer even thank Him for them?

Are you being good stewards of your material goods—your vehicles, your Home, your equipment, etc.?

Are you being austere with the funds and goods and food the Lord has supplied, or are you extravagant and wasteful?

Are you a Home that your sheep and kings and friends would be honored to support, because they would know that every cent would be well spent and invested wisely?

Do you provision as much as you can, and when you have to spend money do you search for good bargains and strive to save the Lord’s money? Are you thrifty?

Do you have a Home budget that is workable and helps you to live within your means?

9. Tithe and Give Offerings!

▼ Verses

Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase. So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine (Pro.3:9,10).

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work (2Cor. 9:7–8).

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings. ... Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it (Mal.3:8,10).

[*Story of the widow's mite.*] (Mark 12:41–44).

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and all these [other] things shall be added unto you (Mat.6:33).

[*Example of giving to God's anointed; story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath.*] (1Ki.17:8–16).

▼ Quotes

435. (Dad:) The minute you start borrowing God's share, His 10%, when He's already let you keep 90%, He will not tolerate it! That is probably one reason some areas are sinking. (ML #683:1, Vol.5).

436. (Dad:) If you put Him first and you pay His tithe, "He will pour out a blessing there will not be room enough to hold it!" He's promised it! It's His Word, it's a contract, and He cannot and will not violate it. He will do it just as sure as the law of gravity! It's His law of economics—if you put Him first and you pay your full tithe, God will bless you for it and He'll see to it that you have more than enough to pay the rest of the bills.

437. ... If you put Him first, as He asks, and you lay aside that tithe and put it first, then He's promised to put you first with abundant blessings!

438. You don't belong in this Family if you put anything else first besides God Himself! He will not take any other place but first place—either in your life, heart, mind, family, strength, time or economics.

439. Don't tell me you can't, because if you couldn't, God wouldn't have asked it of you! God would not be demanding at least 10% of your income if He didn't think you could give it.—Especially not when you ought to be giving 100% of it! 10% is the least little beggarly miserly percentage of your income that you could possibly get away with giving to God, and absolutely no less! (ML #934:10,25,34,36, Vol.8).

440. (Dad:) Our labors of love were not in vain! TYJ!—And that's the way it is with tith-

ing, too!—You may not always see immediate results, as God tests us to see if we'll obey any-how! But then He always bountifully blesses in the end. You can't lose by tithing! Try it! You'll love it! It'll solve all your money problems and prosper you bountifully. (ML #1081, Vol.9).

441. (Dad:) There's no such thing as a poor giver! That might shock you maybe! According to the laws of God and His finances and His blessings and the laws of the way He works, there is nobody who gives generously and abundantly, even if it's only the widow's mite, all they've got, who is poor! Because if they have given everything, God will give them everything, so they can't be poor! He'll bless them somehow.

442. ... Once that little widow gave her mite, all she had, "even all her living" (Mk.12:44), do you think for a minute God let her continue in that poverty-stricken condition after that? Do you think she really went and starved to death? I have an idea He just heaped the blessings on her after He'd made her an example to all history, to all the liars and the hypocritical self-righteous scribes and Pharisees who pretended to be giving so much and probably weren't even giving their tithe!

443. Your tithe is the minimum God expects, the absolute minimum! Under the New Testament you're supposed to give everything you can! (ML #1320:13,48,52, Vol.14).

444. (Mama:) God always blesses His people when they tithe, setting aside the 10% that is His and refusing to touch it for any other purpose. We can then be confident that He will "pour out a blessing that there will not be room enough to hold!" (Mal.3:10). (ML #2813:4, Lifelines 20).

445. (Mama:) Be faithful to give to others. What I'm talking about here, of course, is over and above our tithes. "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (Pro.3:27; 2Cor.9:7). (See also 2Cor. 8:14.)

446. ... Giving to others outside your own Home—offerings, gifts, etc.—is very important and is something the Lord really blesses. If you give, you receive! “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself” (Luk.6:38; Pro.11:25). (ML #2813:6–7, Lifelines 20).

447. (Dad:) The picture the Lord gave me was that we could become financially powerful, and if we would give enough, we’d receive more. So somewhere we must not be giving enough. ... There may be some Homes who are lacking in offerings—maybe because they haven’t worked at it and aren’t asking for it. (ML #2937:17, Lifelines 21).

▼ New Message

448. (Dad speaking:) My oh my, aren’t finances a touchy subject! As I always said, the pocketbook nerve is the most sensitive one. And it’s become even more so these days! The reason tithing has become such an issue in recent times is because some of you have lost sight of the fact that you’re giving to God! I’m pretty surprised to hear the number of unjustifiable complaints and murmurs about the tithe, and why you have to tithe, and who gets the tithe, and where it goes, and what you get in return, and on and on it goes!

449. For Heaven’s sake, did you forget that you’re giving to God, that it’s your duty as His disciples!? God lets you keep 90% of your income, only asking for 10% to keep the Family going, and yet some of you complain. It’s really pitiful, if you ask me!

450. We’ve never been an organization that talks a lot about money and asks for money all the time. We’ve trusted the Lord and He’s never failed; He’s kept the Family going because of you, dear ones, and your generous support over the years. That’s what has made Family operations possible. The Family administration, pub centers, and missionary support would never

be possible without your faithful tithing and giving. You have given, you are giving, and I know you’ll continue to give. But it makes the Lord sad when He hears a lot of complaints about it from some of you, or arguments about why you shouldn’t have to tithe.

451. Tithing is the minimum. After all, today, according to the New Testament, you’re to give all. (See Mat.13:44–46; Mark 10:17–21; Luke 14:33; Acts 2:44–45, 4:34–35.) Jesus doesn’t just want your 10% or your 14%, He wants it all—all your life, your money, your time, your strength, your family, everything!

452. I always appreciated your giving to WS, and I know Mama and Peter do too. The Lord will reward you for your giving. But it makes Him sad if you give begrudgingly. He loves a cheerful giver. Are you giving cheerfully? Are you thankful for all that you receive in return? Are you faithfully setting aside that full tithe, not skimming or robbing God?

453. I’ll tell you, I have warned the Family time and again that one of the surest ways to wreck your financial base in this business is to rob God! Believe me, folks, He sees it, and it’s one of His surest laws that if you withhold in that way, it will bring you poverty and ruin. If you’ve been shortchanging the Lord, if you’ve been trying to pull a fast one on God, then you’d better get right with Him and each other today. Get the fear of the Lord, if not for your own sake, then for your Home, your children, and your work, because there is almost nothing that will cause God to lift His blessings of finances, protection, and even health quicker than your skipping out on your tithes.

454. This is serious business, and if you obey in all these other pillars that Mama’s talking about but still don’t get right regarding your tithe, you will not prosper. God will not be able to bless you! That’s how important the tithe is. It’s your duty to God, it’s your love gift to God, it’s your show of appreciation to God. No matter what else you might have to cut back on if you’re short of cash, don’t touch the tithe or you’ll be sorry. God will not turn a blind eye to that, as your tithe is your declaration of thanksgiving for His blessings, His provision, and His protection. You absolutely must be faithful in your tith-

ing or you're sunk, it's as simple as that.

455. The other 4% that you Charter members give over and above the 10% tithe is also very needed for your local operations. You see a lot of benefits and perks from that giving. It helps to keep your local situation progressing. It makes possible a lot of important initiatives. So please remain faithful with that too. And if things get tight and you're tempted to cut back or to complain in your heart about having to send that money off each month, just remind yourselves that God blesses giving, it makes Him happy, and then He can give you more in return. But He doesn't bless withholding; it makes Him sad, as then He has to dry up some of the streams of provision and plenty that would otherwise water your fields and Homes.

456. Please, dear Family, don't complain about the tithe. Don't murmur in your hearts. Don't even wish you didn't have to give it. Be

thankful, be cheerful givers, and you'll see the Lord repay many times over. Just picture an old-fashioned scale, and as you put your little tiny 10% or 14% on one side, God immediately reaches down with His abundant returns, which cause the scales to tip way to His side. You can never outgive God. No matter how much you pile your tithes and offerings on your side of the scale, it can never begin to balance the scale, much less outdo God's giving! Be wise and tithe!

457. In fact, if you really want to be wise, not only tithe but give offerings as well. Offerings are over and above; offerings are when you give until it hurts. You'll be surprised at how good it feels when you get those giving muscles limbered up. That's a sure-fire way to get the money rolling in! Give until it hurts, and God will make sure you have more than you need! Test God's faithfulness with offerings—you'll never regret it! (*End of message from Dad.*)

458. (Mama:) In the preceding message, Dad talked about the importance of setting aside the full tithe, not skimping or robbing God. To do so, you must keep track of your income and know the state of your finances, which seems to be a problem for some Homes nowadays. One of the COs who read an advance copy of "Are You Robbing God?" commented:

459. It seems that some Homes, especially since the break-up of the larger, Combo Homes, have quite a difficult time knowing how to balance their books and keep a stable financial base. We feel that much of it is due to lack of training in financial matters and knowing how to manage figures and accounting; some of it is due to lack of faithfulness or the awareness of the importance of being diligent in this. This, added to lack of faith for finances or not following the Lord's guidelines for receiving His blessings, make for quite a poor financial standard.

460. We have heard from the VSs that some Homes don't even know their full fi-

nancial state from month to month, and therefore don't even know what the accurate figure for their monthly tithe would be, but just "guess" or average it out, taking from special gifts or other funds at the end of the month to send in. Obviously this is a very poor way to manage your finances, but it seems that this is something that is more common now with some smaller Homes.

461. (Mama:) Please try to be diligent in these business matters, dear Family! There's a lot in the pubs on how to keep books and manage your finances if you'll study them. (See "Finances and Fundraising, Part 5," FSM 271, for classes on the subject. There are also some very good courses in the CVC under the "Business Management" section—Beginning Accounting, Budgeting, and Banking, and more.) If nothing else, ask your area officers for help or advice on getting set up. It's important to your fruitfulness that you're faithful in these matters. If you're faithful with the funds the Lord supplies, then He knows He can trust you with more (Luke 16:10).

▼ New Keys Promises

462. The keys of faith will give you the peace and trust to give Me your 10% no matter how desperately you feel you need it, and in return I will bless you in ways that will more than repay your sacrifice.

463. When you give Me your 10% even when it's a financial crunch, claim the keys of supply and you will see miracles and abounding blessings of every kind.

464. Call on the keys of faith to help you to give even above what seems possible in the natural, and your generosity to Me and My Kingdom will move Me to give back to you a hundred-fold.

465. When you feel boxed in by financial difficulties, ask Me to give you faith through the power of the keys to give your tithe and offerings regardless, and instead of the confines that once held you back, you will be filled to overflowing with My blessings of supply.

466. I will give you the conviction to be faithful with your tithes to Me, and the keys will empower you with love enough to sacrificially give to those in need, and as you do both, miracles of supply will materialize before your eyes in wondrous ways, making every sacrifice worth it all.

▼ ASSIGNMENT

467. Home teamworks, please discuss whether you have been diligent with your tithes. Check your hearts and financial records to see if there are ways that you've been skimping and not tithing fully. If so, have prayer together and ask the Lord to forgive you.

468. Then have a meeting with your Home, confess to your Home members, and ask their forgiveness. During this meeting, all you Home members should check your hearts as to whether you've been holding back from the Lord's work in your tithes or offerings. If so, you should also confess and ask for prayer. Then pray desperately as a Home for a spiritual cleansing and a renewed determination to tithe fully.

469. Discuss the concept of offerings as a Home and see if there are ways you could give over and above the required 10% or 14%. Take some small step of making an offering. Confirm this offering with the Lord in prophecy, and then commit it to Him in prayer.

470. Keep written record in a Home prayer book of the miracles the Lord does as a result of the offerings you give.

10. Pray!

▼ Verses

Whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee (John 11:22).

My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us. And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him (1John 5:14–15).

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God (Phil. 4:6).

▼ Quotes

471. (Mama:) Just because something is the Lord's will for you does not automatically mean that everything is going to go your way. Why are we told repeatedly to pray, if everything is all settled and everything is going to automatically be fine? What are we doing spending all of this time praying desperately if it's automatically all okay? We would just be wasting our time if that were the case. He says, "Ye have not because ye ask not." What a sad thing to realize that sometimes the Lord can't give protection, supply, healing, or souls because we have failed to pray. As Dad said: "God said to Israel one time that bad things were happening

because, ‘No man stirreth himself to call upon Me’! (Isa.64:7). So the Lord really does leave a lot up to us: If we stir ourselves, then God will stir Himself. An awful lot depends on us, our faith and our prayers and what we want done” (ML #1957:34). (ML #2783:8, Lifelines 20).

472. (Mama:) I feel we’re lacking in real full-of-faith desperate prayer for the Lord’s supernatural supply through whatever means!

Our Homes need to pray for the Lord’s miraculous, supernatural supply in a very supernatural way. ... We definitely need to have desperate prayer for the Lord’s supernatural supply to not just be able to survive, but to have all that the Lord wants us to have in the way of comfort and convenience and efficiency. “Thou hast given him his heart’s desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips” (Psa.21:2).

473. ... He could give us much more if we would desperately pray for those “extras,” those things that aren’t exactly luxuries, but neither are they desperate needs—they are, however, things which will help us to be more comfortable and to serve the Lord more easily. The Lord wants to give us above all that we can ask or think, and He wants to supply all our needs according to His great riches.

474. That’s usually why the Lord allows us to get in desperate situations, so we’ll have to depend on Him and Him alone, and look to Him for miracles. (ML #2813:30–31,37, Lifelines 20).

475. (Mama:) You might ask, “Why do we need this exercise in faith, praying in miracles of supply? We’re surviving okay.” Yes, you may be surviving, but most of our Homes come up pretty short. They can survive, but they could be living abundantly. They could be rich in the Lord, but instead they’re very impoverished because they don’t have enough faith to really pray and trust the Lord for His supernatural miraculous answers.

476. He wants you to extend your faith. He wants us to strengthen our faith and launch out into the deep and put our nets down and catch a whole draught of fish! He doesn’t want us to just be living with scarcity and with want and to just be able to survive.

477. This is a need right now! You are surviving, but you could be surviving so much better! You could be living abundantly, if you would step out and have more faith. We’re not talking about living luxuriously, but we’re talking about having the little extras that would make life more convenient and comfortable to enable you to do a better job for the Lord. (ML #2814:24–26, Lifelines 20).

478. (Mama:) There is money out there, folks, and lots of it! And we have every right to demand that the Lord open up some of that wealth to us for His work! After all, we who are doing a mighty work for the Lord in this Endtime have a right to claim the finances to properly carry it out. ...

479. If He has said that we only have to ask of Him and He will give us the heathen for our inheritance and the uttermost parts of the world for our possessions, can He not give us what is far less valuable, the “filthy lucre” of the world that we need for His work? [The Lord] has not let us come this far to abandon us now. We are some of the only ones He’s got who are doing this special ministry, therefore we can expect Him to supply our great needs, and we need to start asking Him (and others) with this in mind.—And not just asking for “any old car” or “any old donation.” We need to expand our horizons and ask Him for what we really need, that He will supply every bit of it and make us “every whit whole!”—Not just put a band-aid on, but solve the whole problem and give us “exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to His power which worketh in us” (Eph.3:20). (ML #2893:14–15, Lifelines 21).

480. (Mama:) Beloved, start crying out to the Lord for this great need, and expect Him to supply in ways that we never dreamed, and above all that we can ask or think.—That He will fill our coffers full to overflowing and thus make it possible for us to do the great job that He has laid out for us to do. This is one burden which I’m sure all of us share and all of us feel, so let’s take it to the Lord together, earnestly beseeching Him to open the windows of Heaven and pour out the great blessings that we need. And

let's ask Him to speak to us, confirming His power and might and His wish to supply, for our own encouragement, strength and faith to hold on until the answer comes. (ML #2893:16, Lifelines 21).

481. (*Jesus:*) Prayers ... feed, they clothe, and bring abundant supply. (ML #3319:54, GN 923).

482. (*Jesus:*) Your desperate, full-of-faith prayers can radically alter any situation or heart and supply any need. (ML #3339:5, GN 933).

▼ New Message

483. (*Jesus speaking:*) I am your Husband, your Lover, your Savior. I am eager to give you the things you need—even more than you need. Ask Me, My darlings, and I will pour forth abundantly, more than you could hope or desire!

484. Your lack of faith has limited My giving because it has limited your asking. When you lack faith, when you doubt My ability to supply—not that you think I don't have it to give or I'm a poor God—but you feel unworthy or you're so accustomed to just barely getting by, with time you lose the faith to ask. You feel you're being presumptuous or extravagant. But I want to make it clear that your asking has not come close to My willingness and desire to give.

485. The rules of the game are that as you ask, I give. I can't change those rules, for they've been set since the beginning of time. You show yourself humble, needy, and obedient to ask, and then I have the great pleasure of giving you everything I've been wanting to give.

486. Do you want to make Me happy? Do you want to give Me satisfaction and joy? Then ask Me for what you need! Only as you ask can I perform miracles of supply. If it could be different, I would tell you. But believe Me, you limit My giving by not asking in prayer. And you don't ask for many reasons.

487. • Some of you have very bad habits of not even thinking about asking Me for what you need. You just putter along under your own steam, trying to scrape together just barely enough to survive. And imagine, all the while

I'm there with My checkbook, ready to write you out a check for cash in the amount you need, if you'd only ask. But you're dull in the spirit and actually don't even think of asking Me, or you don't stir yourself up or put forth the effort to pray.

488. • Some of you have sin in your life. You're disobedient, bitter, murmuring, or covering up some unconfessed sin. Because of that, you don't have the faith to come to Me and ask, as you know you'll have to look into My eyes and you'll be exposed. So you choose instead to hide and try to get by on your own.

489. • Some of you have gotten used to a very poor physical standard in your lives and you don't even realize that you should have much more, so you don't ask in prayer. You should live in a better home, eat healthier food, drive safer, newer cars, benefit from the equipment that you and your children need, and have plenty of witnessing tools on hand. You deserve all these things, but you don't even realize it. You've become accustomed to living in substandard conditions, so you just put up with it. You just survive. And it's not necessary. But according to your faith it's done unto you, and because you lack faith, you don't ask.

490. • Some of you are too proud to ask Me in prayer. In your pride you don't want to appear in need, you don't want to "beg," you don't even want to be desperate before Me, your Husband and Lover. You try to hide your needs and act like you're doing okay. I know you're not; in fact, many people can see you're not doing okay and that you should be doing much better, but your pride holds you back.

491. • Many of you of the younger generation lack faith in My ability to supply. You have not exercised your prayer muscles, and you have for a long while looked to the System to provide for you. You don't even believe it's possible to live by faith, so of course you don't bother to ask Me to supply. This leads you into a very debilitating cycle of leaning to your own strength and works, which weakens your faith more and more.

492. These are just a few of the reasons why you don't ask Me in prayer for what you need. Prayer is step one, as your queen said.

That should be the first thing you do, your main offensive weapon. And now you not only have all the Word and training in prayer, but you have the keys of the Kingdom at your command. There are keys of supply, miracles, open doors, windfalls, inheritances, gifts, dimes from the sky, and hundreds more that you can command for your specific needs.

493. There really is no excuse for you to live in need and want. That is not the testimony I wish for the children of David to display to the world and to each other. It's My reputation that is at stake, and I promise you I'll make good My promises. I'm a diligent, trustworthy Boss Who is happy to pay your bills, give you bonuses, up your pay, and provide insurance of all kinds. I want things to change from this day forth! Take heed to these words of counsel and direction. Live them, obey them fully, and be blessed.

494. I will hold you accountable, My loves. Things will be different from now on, for now your financial situation will either improve greatly or it will get even worse, depending on your reaction to this counsel. If you snap to and change, if you take the assignments from your queen seriously and follow through with them, if you do all that you can to let these ten financial pillars support your Home and work, then your financial situation will get stronger and stronger. But if you unwisely disregard this counsel, if you lose the vision and don't walk in the fear of Me, and if you continue to be lethargic, blind, lazy and apathetic, you'll see your bad situation get worse. You will be held accountable, and you will see change whether you want it or not—change for the better or change for the worse. But all things will not continue as they are.

495. Please, My darlings, I long to spoil you with good things. Let Me give as I wish to give! (*End of message from Jesus.*)

▼ New Keys Promises

496. There is no need too great, no price too high, for the keys to supply.

497. Claim your needs through the power of the keys and you will have them.

498. Hear from Me about what you need and what would be best, and claim the power of the keys and see Me make it so.

499. The power of the keys can remove any obstacles that stand in the way of My will and the supply of all your needs.

500. Every need, no matter how great, will be supplied as you call on the power of the keys.

▼ ASSIGNMENT

501. I'd like to ask each of you to hear from the Lord in prophecy about the following question:

What holds me back from praying in faith for my needs and the needs of our Home? Am I guilty of one of the weaknesses the Lord lists in the preceding prophecy? If so, what should I do to be strengthened?

502. As a Home, write up a complete needs list. Commit all those needs to the Lord in desperate prayer, claiming keys promises. Keep the list updated regularly and note when the needs are supplied.

503. Establish a Home schedule for daily prayer for your needs, which will assure that you have desperate prayer every day, either one person in private intercessory prayer vigil or all Home members together.

504. Memorize keys promises of supply unitedly as a Home.

Problems and Questions from the Field, and the Lord's Solutions

505. While I was working on this GN series, one of the COs wrote some interesting observations regarding the financial conditions of some Homes. I had a couple of my channels pray about

the questions this report raised. I'll include excerpts of the report and the Lord's counsel, as it serves as a good review and confirmation of the lessons and goals He's brought out so far in

“Show Me the Money.” There are also some practical suggestions in this report that are worth praying about to see if you could apply them to your situation. Please give these messages your full attention and pray about them equally as diligently as the earlier counsel. Thank you very much.

(Excerpt of report from a CO:)

506. One thing that has always been sort of a “mystery” to me concerning some of our Family ministries is how thriving a work can be in regards to winning souls, Active members, and having several miracle ministries going, but at the same time the Homes are often hardly making it financially.

507. During a recent visitation, I fervently came before the Lord to ask for His guidance, as in every Home that I visited the testimonies were almost like a carbon copy: great ministries, but great lack of finances to help them get out of the merry-go-round that lack of finances brings about.

508. With such wonderful testimonies of healing miracles, Active members won, musical groups thriving and playing in exclusive clubs and areas, etc., there is no reason why our Homes should not be enjoying a more comfortable economic condition.

509. Amongst one of the things the Lord gave me, and that I shared with some of our Homes, was that we needed to change our approach toward those to whom we are ministering.

510. We’ve always been known as the “good guys” that everyone can count on and who ask nothing in return. And when we finally approach people for help, it’s when we need to pay our rent and don’t have a penny toward it. Then we go asking like beggars rather than claiming the land by the power of the keys and presenting ourselves for what we are—which is a special elite force and emissaries that are coming to them to give them the special blessing of helping us.

511. In other words, we should approach them saying that we would like to give them a special blessing, that the Lord has told us to go to them to honor them with the blessing of investing in His work—an honor not given to many, as the dividends are so high—100% here and life eternal.

512. I think our approach in asking needs to change if we are to reach the influential and the rich, as per the instructions in “Reach the Rich.” We need to approach people with an attitude of what we really are—the most successful people on the face of the Earth—as we have found what everyone is looking for, the fountain of happiness and eternal life!

513. The Lord showed me that it was all in the asking and how we’re approaching people. We shared this in the Homes we visited, and we’ll have to wait and see what the results are. One thing for sure, it can’t make things worse, as all the Homes are in dire straits for finances.

514. I found the same situation in another Home which has a thriving ministry to outsiders, but they were totally broke with no funds to even pay their rent, which was less than US\$500. However, many of the people they minister to aren’t necessarily poor, but come from the middle and upper class—in other words, people who could easily give.

515. In this particular case, we also touched on the subject of not being so “proud” that we are afraid to ask for fear that people would think we’re after their money. This same Home boasts of having at least 200 people that they are ministering to and that come regularly to visit their Home. I mentioned that if each one of those people gave a minimum of only US\$5 per month, that would be US\$1,000. And of course they should expect more than US\$5 per month, as that is what people will spend in a McDonald’s.

516. It seems it would be real helpful to have some FSMs or GNs on the subject of

learning how to ask. For example, I was thinking that with our Active members alone we already have a tremendous sales force for our tools. If each of those 200 people of the above-mentioned Home were encouraged to sell a CD, a video, and some of the Activated booklets a month, that Home would have a profit in sales of tools of about US\$3,000 per month. Not only would they benefit, but our PCs would benefit, the entire field would benefit, WS would benefit, and most of all, the people that receive the tools would benefit by receiving such precious jewels in their hands!

517. It seems it would be good to encourage our Family to use their Active members more to preach the Gospel, and not just feed them and feed them and feed them. The name itself, Active members, should indicate that these people are supposed to be actively involved in the preaching of the Gospel. Truly, I can't do the subject justice, as with such wonderful ministries there is no reason why this field I'm talking about should not be one of the main supporters of the work in our region and the world. (*End of excerpts of report from CO.*)

■ Overcoming Pride and the Wrong Mindset

518. (*Question:*) Dear Lord, what is the crux of the problem here? Is it mostly or all a matter of not asking? Or is it other things as well? And why would our brethren not ask? What holds them back? How do our Homes develop this mindset?

519. (*Jesus speaking:*) This is a mindset that has developed over many years. It's not a mindset that has developed overnight, but rather crept in slowly over time. It is pride to the extreme in being too humble, too meek, too lowly, too ashamed, and too afraid to ask for help. It's too little faith to walk in and claim the land. It's a lack of godly pride, a failure to realize that My children are rich in spirit, and the riches they give to others through their ministering and min-

istries are worth more than the riches of this world.

520. It's the Enemy who makes My children feel inferior, less reputable than those in the world, less honorable, and that they should look down on themselves or be content to live with the bare necessities. In some cases they're not even living with the bare necessities, but are hardly scraping by and making ends meet. I have said in My Word that My children should be happy and content whether they abase or abound, but many of My brides have been content to abase and haven't fought to abound. They figure that the life of a poor missionary is what I have called them to, and thus they don't have faith for more.

521. While in some cases I do require My children to be content to abase, it's not a long-term condition I would have My brides live with, especially not in this day and age—the age of mighty miracles, the age of My power being manifested more fully, the age when I am expanding the borders of the tents of My flock, the day when I have called My children to reach the rich!

522. It is pride that holds them back from asking. It is pride that causes My children to be excessively meek and lowly to the point of hindering My ability to supply. And not only does it hinder My ability to supply, but it also holds back the blessings I would give to those who would be their supporters, kings, and queens.

523. As I have said, it is but a little thing for those of the world to give unto My children of their possessions and finances, in return for the great riches of spirit that My children feed them. There is no comparing the two. There is no price that could be paid for My truth, My Words.

524. The Family's mindset must change. Their faith must grow. Their godly pride must flourish. Their faith to reach the rich must be honed, and they must be educated about the tactics for doing so. If they truly believed that they were as rich in faith, rich in spirit, rich in truth, as they are, then they wouldn't hesitate to call on others to support them and allow them to receive blessings as a result. If they truly believed that they are ambassadors in spirit, kings

and queens in My realm, then they would not be content to remain as beggars in the eyes of the world.

525. There is a time to abase and a time to abound. My children must always be ready for either. But when they abase, it should be because it is My will and part of a training process, a time for them to learn and grow, and because I am working in their lives—to keep them humble or desperate, or to touch them with the feelings of others. But when My children are abasing because of a lack of faith, because of pride, or because of not appropriating and reaching out to receive the blessings I would give them, then this is not My will or purpose.

526. They are kings and queens, teachers, prophets, princes and princesses, oracles of God, bearers of truth, leaders and shepherds, feeders of the flock, healers, disseminators of My Gospel, soul doctors, children of David, citizens of Heaven, and as such I would bestow My blessings upon them—blessings of supply, finances, peace, and many rewards. But they have not because they ask not. They have not because they lack faith, because pride hinders and holds them back, and because they have allowed wrong habits to build and have grown accustomed to living meagerly and haven't appropriated My promises.

527. My children should not live as paupers, but should live comfortably and should have all their needs met. This is not only because I love My children and wish for them to have these benefits and rewards, but also for the sake of their sample to others, for the purpose of drawing the lost to My bosom in order to feed them My truth, and so that My Gospel will reach the far corners of the globe. This is My will—that My children have the means to get the job done, that they are able to invest their time in endeavors to benefit and save others, rather than living on the treadmill of survival. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

■ The Cycle of Blessings in Giving

528. (Question:) If the problem is other things as well, even things not represented in this report, what are those things? Surely, Lord,

You don't expect our Family to live like this. We heard from another source that some of the Homes this CO talks about have very little food, and they almost had their utilities cut off due to not paying the bill. It's a reproach to the cause, especially when You have said that the miracles we do in Your Name should cause people to want to give us everything they have in gratitude for what we've given them.

529. (Jesus speaking:) Many of My children are afraid of the opinions of men. Many are afraid of what others will think of them if they ask for money or support with the confidence that they are deserving of such support and help because of the spiritual gifts and blessings they give to the needy. My children fear that those in the world, or even their Active members, will feel slighted because they have to “pay” for the services the Family gives to them. The Family wants to give, give, and give, and in their hearts they would never want to be paid for their services, as they feel it's their duty to Me, their service to Me, and they give of themselves freely.

530. But there are basic needs—needs they must ask others for—and they must trust Me for this. They must realize the cycle of My blessings, the cycle of giving, and how it works in the spirit world. My children must ask for support and help from those I bring across their path, those they minister to, so that I can bless abundantly. I bless the receiver abundantly because their physical needs are cared for as a result of the giver. I bless the giver abundantly because they have activated the wheels of spiritual rewards that they will directly benefit from. I choose to work through mortal men and women, and all who are a part of the giving and receiving cycle are blessed.

531. The one who asks for help is blessed for their faith, for their humility, and for claiming My promises. The one who gives to help the need of another is blessed for their sacrifice, for their giving, for their love, concern, and their faith to trust that I will bless them. But so often this cycle is at a standstill—this cycle of My Spirit—because of My children's lack of faith, lack of asking, and fear of man. And so they

must trust Me, and know that if they do not ask, My hand of blessings is held back from not just them, but also from the ones who would give and be a part of the cycle to receive My benefits in spirit.

532. My children must realize that the sheep, the Active members, and the supporters, will sense things in the spirit. If things are presented in the right way—with love, godly pride, humility, and according to My plan—then those who give to My Family will not feel that they are “paying” for services rendered. They will know that My brides are not in My business for the money, for luxury, or for the pleasures of this world, but that they are asking for only that which they need to do the job, to rise above the earthly confines of day-to-day life, so that they can do My business. Many will feel called to give to you, and will know that what you give them in return is worth much, much more than anything they could ever give you.

533. The cycle of giving and receiving is beautiful in My sight. The rewards for giving and receiving are beyond compare! If My children would only see the acts of asking, receiving, and giving as I do, they would not be afraid to activate the cycle, to use it. They would know of the benefits. They would know that this cycle is a spiritual phenomenon that brings forth tremendous blessings, fruit, and miracles.

534. But this cycle must be activated by faith; it isn't automatic or preprogrammed. Steps must be taken to start the wheels turning, but once it's going, all involved—givers and receivers—benefit equally. All benefit in different ways, but I promise that all benefit equally. There are no losers in the giving and receiving cycle. Everyone is a winner, everyone is blessed, and everyone is rewarded according to the part they play. *(End of message from Jesus.)*

■ Is It Enough to Claim the Keys?

535. (Question:) Apparently when one of the Homes prayed about their financial situation, the Lord told them to “claim the keys.” But we know there has to be more to it than that. We had works in that country before we even had MLs to distribute. The Family was pioneering,

and yet they never lacked for finances, and certainly the Homes never had any of their utilities nearly cut off. So what is wrong with this picture?

536. (Jesus speaking:) They must put feet to their prayers. Praying and claiming the keys are the first steps, but there must be subsequent steps of obedience, of faith, of stepping out on the water with My wisdom and counsel at their side, of putting Me to the test. If only the first step is taken, the miracles of supply cannot become reality. *(End of message from Jesus.)*

■ How to Do Your Part!

537. (Question:) What needs to change in the way we present ourselves? As this CO said: “I think our approach in asking needs to change if we are to reach the influential and the rich as per the instructions in ‘Reach the Rich.’ We need to approach people with an attitude of what we really are—the most successful people on the face of the Earth—as we have found what everyone is looking for, the fountain of happiness and eternal life! The Lord showed me that it was all in the asking and how we’re approaching people.”

538. What is the problem with our presentation or expectations, and is the problem widespread? How do You expect the Family to have a balanced approach to finances—incorporating such principles as tithing, offerings, asking, good stewardship, living Acts 2:44–45, having a well-balanced missionary work, reaching the rich, etc.?

539. (Jesus speaking:) The problems are somewhat different in every case. Each Home has people with different backgrounds, different levels of faith, different experiences, and even different levels of progress in calling on the keys and claiming miracles. There are many variables. Some people have great faith for provisioning, but lack in faith to ask for money. Others have great faith for selling tools, but lack in faith to teach their friends to tithe. Others have great faith to minister to their friends and contacts, but haven't been able to bring them-

selves to explain the very great need for funds and finances to continue their ministry.

540. Some Homes are strong on the sample and presentation of their communal life, but are less active when it comes to recruiting new contacts. Others are great at recruiting new contacts, but less faithful in their follow-up. Others concentrate on their children's training and ministries, and don't recognize the other opportunities I place in front of them which would help to support them. Each Home has its own set of difficulties and struggles, and those struggles are all a part of life. They're not going to go away. You can't concentrate on everything at once, so I patiently teach and train you, one step at a time.

541. I allow difficulties and struggles for many reasons: To keep you desperate and close to Me; to keep you separate from the world; to keep you working hard so that the Gospel will be preached; as an example to the world of your faith and dedication as disciples, even though it's not easy; to test and try you and make you worthy of the rewards and gifts I give to those who give everything to Me; to keep you soft and humble and broken so that I can use you to comfort My children in the world who have no comfort, and need someone to sympathize with them—to name just a few. There are many reasons that I allow your lives to be a struggle. The life of a missionary and a disciple—especially one honored with living in these Last Days on Earth—will never be easy. I'll save you the suspense. It's not going to get cushy, relaxed, and slow-paced.

542. Having said that, however, things have reached a state in many Homes, on many very fruitful fields, which are a testimony against Me and My supply for you. It's not My will for you to be living so hand-to-mouth that you don't have the finances needed to engage in the fruitful opportunities I put before you. It's not My will for you to be too poor to buy the needed foods, fruits, and vegetables that your growing children, pregnant mothers, and hard-working missionaries need. It's not My will for you to be a bad example to your contacts, utility suppliers, friends and landlords by being late on your rent

or payments, or living in rundown, substandard living quarters. That is not My will. If that is the case in your Home, then I'm talking to you.

543. I have promised great miracles and that you will become known as the people of the keys. I have revealed My plan to you to expand the Family, your labor force, your base of support, your church. I have given you this plan not only to bring more laborers in because the harvest is plenteous, but also because through this plan I wish to lighten your loads financially. I want to supply more abundantly.

544. I revealed this to you in "What the Future Holds, Part 1" (ML #3349:51), when I told you that the miracle ministry was a key factor in your becoming a financial power, because people would be willing to give their all in exchange for such priceless gifts as deliverance and healing. This is still My will. I want to bring it to pass. I told you in the Action Series of how the Activated plan would revitalize your Homes, inspire your young people, and bring the Family to life again. This is still My plan.

545. But the factor missing is that you must do your part. You must ask. That is My promise to you, "Ask, and it shall be given you." If you're not asking, then you're not doing your part. If you are asking, but you still don't have what you need, then you need to find out why. Are you obeying Me? Are you living the New Wine? Are you witnessing the meat of the Word and promoting Activated? Are you living in unity with your brethren? Are you living Acts 2:44 and 45? Are you being good stewards of what I have already given you? Are you feeding your flock the Words of David? Are you giving—not just your tithe, but offerings of love too? Are you being specific with Me in your prayers, and using the spiritual arsenal at your disposal to break through the obstacles of the Enemy?

546. If the answer to all those questions is yes, yet you still don't have what you need, then the problem might be with your presentation to your contacts or even the mentality you have, which limits your faith or causes you to feel embarrassed for asking.

547. Kings don't like to support failures. They might give once or twice to bail you out,

sort of a “mercy gift,” but they won’t continue to consider you a good investment of their resources if in their eyes you look like a failure. Of course, I know that you’re not failures. Even if you look that way in the eyes of the world, if you’re doing your best to obey Me, if you’re faithful with what I’ve given you, then you’re successful. But some of you need to learn how to better present yourselves to your contacts, friends, kings, and potential supporters.

548. Part of it has been covered in “Reach the Rich.” Part of it comes down to being convinced yourself of what you’re here for. Are you here primarily to feed the multitudes physically? Or are you here to minister the Word of God and salvation, and give people the peace that only comes from Me, the satisfaction that comes from giving unselfishly, and the lasting happiness that comes from living a life of love? That, My loves, is what you are here for. That is your primary responsibility. Along with that, I sometimes lead you to minister to people physically as part of your testimony.

549. But you must never forget what you’re here for to begin with, because if you get your eyes off of that goal, of course it’s impossible to present it to your potential supporters in a convincing manner. You can try to sell them on your CTP projects, and that’s all good and well. But you need more faith to sell them on the idea that you’re here to help people find meaning in life. You’re not just giving them a fish for a day, but you’re teaching them to fish! And by that, I mean you’re teaching them how to live a life of love, you’re teaching them to know Me, Who can guide them in every decision they have to make from now on. What greater service to the world could you give than that?

550. Some of you are ashamed of your primary mission as missionaries—ministers of the Gospel. You feel that doesn’t sell, you can’t present that as your appeal for help, because no one will want to support it. Well, that is where your mindset and attitude need to be adjusted. I want to raise up supporters who will pay you to go and give Bible classes, who will tithe to you because they know that you use that tithe to witness, to win souls, to change their part of the

world for the better!

551. In order to be able to present it like that, you have to really witness to them on a deep and personal level and let them experience the good fruits of drawing close to Jesus. Let them see how their life changes through the personal love, time, attention, and prayer you give them—and then explain that you want to go and give that to the rest of the country you’re living in, but you need their help to do it!

552. Another angle you can approach things from is that you’re getting out there and doing their job for them. Each of us is responsible to change the part of the world we live in. Well, you’re doing it full time; the least they can do is support you in it! That’s their contribution to society, the least they can do! You can’t do it without people like them—don’t be afraid to let them know that!

553. Be proud of the work you do! Don’t beg and grovel and act like they’re doing you a big favor to throw you a few coins when you’re desperate and late on your rent! Be up-front and honest about your ministries, tell them you need their help to be able to continue, and stand tall and proud of the life of service that you lead! You’re doing the same thing as doctors, who are some of the highest-paid professionals in society, except you’re providing the service for people’s spirits, their hearts. Don’t be afraid to ask for the help of those who are responsible to give to society. They know it and you know it, and they just need to be approached in a way that they can understand. They’re business people.

554. Another approach is the one this CO brought out in his report, which is one of the most beneficial, because it helps people to be able to receive the full benefit of their giving and grow spiritually at the same time: “We are honoring you with an opportunity to receive all the blessings that the Lord gives to those who give. We need your help and support, and the Lord made it that way because He wants to be able to bless those who give to His work. In the Bible it promises, ‘One hundredfold in this life, and in the world to come, life eternal!’ You can’t beat those dividends.”

555. That opens the door for a full witness about My blessings—happiness, fulfillment, miracles, supply of specific needs, and best of all, they play a part in each soul that is saved, each person healed, each life changed for the better. And in Heaven, when the rewards are handed out, they're going to benefit from all that you have done with their giving. It's sort of like being a stockbroker and giving your clients an inside tip about the market. They have the opportunity to buy big just before the price soars. Except in your case, there's never a false tip or a market crash, because they're investing in an eternally precious commodity—the hearts and souls of men.

556. The truth, My loves, is that you need to see things from a different angle. It's not new; it's all in the Word. But I understand that

when you're caught up in the daily cares of Home life and the struggles that present themselves, it's difficult to pull back and see the big picture. It's easy to feel indebted beyond reason to your givers and take on the "you're doing us such a big favor" mentality, which can start to come across as "excuse me for living," which then turns your contacts or potential contacts off!

557. You're not begging! You're not taking their money for nothing! In return, you're giving them the opportunity to reap eternal rewards. You're giving them a part of the great and eternal work you're doing. You're helping them to grow spiritually. You're giving them an opportunity to pull down My full blessings on their lives for their sacrifice and giving. It's a priceless opportunity.

558. (Mama:) As you put this counsel into effect, dear Family, please remember to be loving in your approach, and especially to be thankful for the gifts and donations you receive. One of the COs in Japan commented:

559. This part about our own attitude is really right on, that we shouldn't come across as "excuse me for living" or "feel we are indebted beyond reason to our givers." In Japan this mentality is very strong both in the Family and in the System, and we definitely need to have more godly pride in our work when approaching others to help us financially. We also need to ask more.

560. And when we do receive, Japanese people expect us to thank them for their gift over and over. For example, if they gave you a gift or donation, then you are expected to thank them again when you meet again, and if we don't do that, they would think we are not thankful, and it can be quite offensive sometimes.

561. (Mama:) Another CO in Japan, writing separately, mentioned the same thing:

562. I've had many interactions with local Active members and supporters while visiting Homes, and one of the things they are bothered by about Charter members is that they don't show enough appreciation for their financial help. They do say "thank you" when they receive gifts, but then afterwards they act as if nothing happened.

563. It's good to have faith to receive and faith that the Lord will bless our friends for giving to the Lord's work, but we also need to remember that it's a sacrifice for them. They have to work hard to earn the money. Even though they know that they are giving to God, they want to know that we are really thankful for it.

564. I don't know if other areas have the same problem, but at least in Japan people expect us to show appreciation. This would help them continue to give, and to give more. Besides that, this is one way to show them love.

565. (Mama:) Being thankful for the gifts you receive and expressing it to your donors is a very important part of showing the Lord's

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love to them, no matter what field you're on. If you're not letting them know how much you appreciate their help, how thankful you are for it, what it's being used for and what a blessing it is to the work of the Lord, then it's no wonder they don't feel like giving more and no wonder that your income suffers. Dad brought out this principle years ago in the Letter "Priorities":

566. That's probably the first thing God will ask you [when you're suffering financially]: "Did you get out your prayer letter this month? Did you thank all of your donors faithfully and lovingly with a real personal note or letter? Did you let 'm know how much you appreciate it and how much you needed it and what you spent it for? ... Are you keeping in good relationship with your kings and queens and people on the field?" Are you doing all you possibly can to raise your support and asking God, "What else can I do? What more can I do?" Because I think if the Family were, income would not be down! So that's not God's fault, that's your fault! (ML #1316:64, Vol.13).

567. My loves, Apotheon fights you hard. He tries to blind your eyes to the vision I would lay before you. He tries to pull you down, discourage you, and drain your faith.

568. There is also another demon who deceives you. His name is Aknon, and he is the demon of fear of asking. And by fear, I don't mean only fear as you usually think of it, but also the feelings of condemnation, embarrassment, begging in an "excuse me for living" manner, and all the feelings which you can be hit with when you're not really full of My Word on the subject. Even when you are, sometimes he will fight you. But when you are full of My Word and prayed up, when you have sought Me as to your presentation and how to best approach a contact to help you, then Aknon has no power over you. Instead, My mighty angels of faith and courage rush to your side and you'll find a

great thrill in presenting your need.

569. Whether or not the contact responds as you've hoped, it's a victory for Me, because you went wisely and you gave them an opportunity to come closer, to partake of your work in a very personal way, and when it's My timing, that is always good. Even if they say no, you haven't lost anything. In fact, you gain in any case, because I am able to use that witness in their lives.

570. So, My loves, as a recap, here is what you must do if you find yourselves in the vicious cycle of not having what you need in your fruitful mission field:

1) Start with the spiritual principles. Re-read "God's Financial Blessings" (ML #2813, Lifelines 20), and see if you are obeying. Look back over the New Wine and see if you are implementing it. Ask yourself the questions I gave you earlier: Are you obeying Me? Are you living the New Wine? Are you witnessing the meat of the Word and promoting Activated? Are you living in unity with your brethren? Are you living Acts 2:44 and 45? Are you being good stewards of what I have already given you? Are you feeding your flock the Words of David? Are you giving—not just your tithe, but offerings of love too? Are you being specific with Me in your prayers, and using the spiritual arsenal at your disposal to break through the obstacles of the Enemy?

2) Ask Me if there's anything else I want to tell you—something that you've overlooked.

3) Once you have remedied anything lacking in points one and two, claim the keys of supply with fervor and full faith.

4) Examine your presentation to your contacts, and ask Me if you've really done all you could in giving them an accurate picture of your work, your needs, and the benefits and rewards that are in it for them. If not, pray about each one specifically and ask Me how you can explain things better. Call them up, make appointments, lay it on the line, and watch Me bring in the finances that are needed!

5) Expect miracles, My loves! And from this point on, seek Me about how to improve

your presentation—not just to your long-standing contacts and friends, but to those you meet new every day. Ask Me how you can give an accurate picture of what you do from the very beginning, how you can help them, and how they can help you to change their part of the world. I will lead you very specifically according to the needs and customs and mentality of your particular field.

571. The important thing is that you have the right mentality—full faith that I can supply, I want to supply, I will supply; full faith to present your work to your contacts and expect them to do their part to change their part of the world; full faith to explain your work in a way that they will understand, but not backwatering on the most important job you're there for—to change people's lives, to give them lasting peace, happiness, and purpose through salvation and a life of love.

572. That is the solution, My loves. Much of the victory lies in changing your mindset. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

In Conclusion

573. (Mama:) Dear Family, Peter and I love

you very much and we pray this counsel will be a great blessing to you. Please know that we and your loved ones in WS will be praying for miracles of supply and progress for you. We will call on the keys of obedience, and will beseech our Lover regularly and hold Him to His promises on your behalf.

574. Remember what was shared earlier, that you are held accountable. You're molding your future today, and all those little decisions you make each day do make a difference. How you live your life, how you spend your time, your relationship with the Lord and your attitudes do matter! Remember, your financial success depends in a very large part on your building on the right foundation. Are you? It works for those who do!

575. Please take this seriously, ponder this instruction, follow through on the assignments, and give the Lord a chance to give you the desires of your hearts! He is able, dear loves, and He wants to. How much He can or cannot do depends on you! Prove Him, and then listen for the sound of those windows of Heaven flinging open!

Much love in our generous Husband,
Mama

For more on finances, fundraising, and presenting your need, as well as testimonies of supply, please see the following Letters and pubs:

- "God's Financial Blessings!" ML #2813, Lifelines 20.
- "More on George Mueller" ML #2814, Lifelines 20.
- "Ask and It Shall Be Given!" ML #2893, Lifelines 21.
- "From Poverty to Plenty!" ML #2929, Lifelines 21.
- "Finances and Fund Raising! —Part 1," FSM 261.
- "Finances and Fund Raising! —Part 2," FSM 262.
- "Finances and Fund Raising! —Part 3," FSM 264.
- "Finances and Fund Raising! —Part 4," FSM 265.

- "Finances and Fund Raising! —Part 5," FSM 271.
- "My God Shall Supply All Your Needs," FSM 269–270.
- "Large Petitions Bring—Thrilling Accounts of God's Miraculous Supply," FSM 321.
- "Crazy Faith Pays the Bills," FSM 370.
- "Supply—On God's Payroll," FSM 383–384.
- "Benefits of Feeding Your Sheep," FSM 396.

Also check out the CVC section on "Christian Outreach Experience," especially the course on "Outreach Ministry Fundraising."

If you have any tips and testimonies of your own that might help, encourage or inspire others, please send them in or include them with your TRF. Thanks!