

10th Grade Devotional 1



Romans 13:7-8

7 Give therefore to everyone what you owe: taxes to whom taxes are due; customs to whom customs; respect to whom respect; honor to whom honor.

8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

My mailbox is regularly filled with offers from folks who want to give me money. They tell me that I am already pre-approved and can gain access to large sums of money that I can spend on all sorts of wonderful things that will improve my life and make it more enjoyable. And as if that is not enough, my email inbox is filled with the same kinds of offers. With all of this money available, it seems there is nothing that I want that is out of reach.

However, I learned the hard way that you have to read the fine print. When I did, I realized that the people who seemed to want to do me a favor and be my friend actually wanted to make me their servant and put me in a situation where I was working to make money to put into their account.

The Bible has a plethora of warnings about the dangers of debt. We are warned in **Matthew 6:24** that we cannot serve two masters and Proverbs tells us that the borrower is the servant to the lender. **Romans 6:18** tells us that we have been set free from sin and now “slaves to righteousness.”

Philippians 4:19 tells us that God will supply all our needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus. That provision is made as a result of the ongoing relationship we have with God. We talk to Him through prayer about the things we need and seek His will over the things we want and He provides in supernatural ways as He sees fit. He knows what is best for us and what we truly need and are capable of managing properly. However, going into debt to get the things we want can circumvent that process and allow us to “own” things that are not in our best interest.

So make it a priority to owe no one anything but to share the love that God has so freely given to you.

Parents:

Discuss with your student the difference between wants and needs. Share a time when God was faithful and provided for you and your family. Pray together thanking God for the blessings he has given to your family.