

THE WAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS “Strategy For Living” Proverbs 4:18-19

“The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day. But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.” Proverbs 4:18-19 (NIV)

A Strategy for Righteousness Encompasses:

- Right **Living** - morality and conduct.
- Right **Thinking** - judgment and world view.
- Right **Relationships** - how I live with God and others.

THE RIGHTEOUS PERSON...

I. Blesses others with their **words**.

“The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, ...” Proverbs 10:11 (NIV)

“A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.” Proverbs 25:11

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

“... speaking the truth in love, ...” Ephesians 4:15 (NIV)

II. Honors God with their **wealth**.

Five Investments that pay eternal dividends:

1. Use your money to express **worship**.

“Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.” Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

“... The purpose of tithing is to teach you to put God first in your lives.” Deuteronomy 14:23

“Do not store up for your treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.” Matthew 6:19-20 (NIV)

2. Use it to bless those in my **church** family.

“Share what you have with God’s people who are in need and show hospitality.” Romans 12:13

“And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything they had. They sold their possessions and shared the proceeds with those in need.” Acts 2:44-45

God wants us to invest in each other.

3. Use it to enhance your **spiritual life**.

“The earnings of the godly enhance their lives, but evil people squander their money on sin.” Proverbs 10:16 (NLT)

“Buy truth and don’t sell it for love or money. Buy wisdom. Buy education. Buy insight.” Proverbs 23:23 (GW)

4. You use it to bless the **poor**.

“Give to the poor and you will never be in need. If you close your eyes to the poor, many will curse you.” Proverbs 28:27 (GNT)

“When you give back to the poor, it’s like lending to the Lord, and the Lord will pay you back.” Proverbs 19:17 (GNT)

5. God wants you to use your money to expand **His kingdom**.

“You will honor God through this genuine act of service because of your commitment to spread the Good News of Christ and because of your generosity in sharing with them and everyone else.” 2 Corinthians 9:13 (GW)

III. Runs to God in times of **distress**.

“The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.” Proverbs 18:10 (NIV)

IV. Stands up for **godly convictions**.

“Like a muddied spring or a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked.” Proverbs 25:26 (NIV)

“You are the salt of the earth. ... You are the light of the world. ... let your light shine before men, ...” Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV)

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the power of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ... Stand firm then, ...” Ephesians 6:10-14 (NIV)