



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## 2) Leading people into financial freedom

*10 Lessons on how leaders can help their people apply biblical financial wisdom*

### Part 2: GOD'S GRACE FOR YOUR FINANCE

Previous episode looked at God's WILL for you finance:

- To be your SOURCE
- To make money a tool of WORSHIP
- To break POVERTY thinking

The good news is that because it is God's will, we can believe for God's GRACE

- By grace I mean God's mercy and enabling power - His help
- Remember that grace follows faith
- If you have faith for his will, you will find grace for obedience

*2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NIV)*

*1 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. 2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. 5 And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.*

### HOW DO WE AS LEADERS, LEAD PEOPLE INTO GOD'S GRACE FOR THEIR FINANCE

#### 1. Teach that generosity is not wealth dependent but grace dependent

*"2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity."*

That does not make economic sense - in the world

- But makes perfect economic sense in the Kingdom of God

Note the power of grace:

- Grace is not situation dependent
- Acting out of grace releases joy
- Grace stretches you beyond your ability

Eg. A church desperately saving for their own building sowed a million rand into our building

- That does not make economic sense
- That's the Kingdom of God

#### 2. Teach the golden rule of God's economy

*"2 They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us."*

Golden rule of God's economy: Put the Lord first!

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

You never lose when you put God first!

**Testimony:** As a church, always put generosity and giving towards the extension of the kingdom ahead of church needs.

- By God’s grace we have always seen his provision

3. Make room for God’s people to give

**Personal:** As a young pastor I struggled to ask people to give towards a project we felt was from God

- I knew that many were in tough financial positions
- But discovered again and again that people never lose when they honour God with their finances

Luke 21:1-4 (NIV)

1 As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. 2 He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. 3 “Truly I tell you,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. 4 All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

**Example:** Jesus was happy to watch a poor widow give away everything she had

- I would have wanted to drop her so that she could help her family
- Jesus was happy to watch her give
- Because He knew that his Father would provide for her

**ILLUST:** The challenge in Pakistan

- They are so poor and it is so hard for Christians there
- But we should still teach God’s people to give and not just expect to receive from everyone

**BIG IDEA:** God has grace to help you with your finances if you have faith to be obedient.

**YOUR TURN:**

1. What is it about the testimony of the church in Macedonia (2 Cor 8:1-5) that challenges you the most?
2. Do you have a testimony of experiencing God’s grace in your finance?
3. Which of the three points mentioned challenged you the most and why?