



Part 5 – Recover My Margin

• You may not be where you expected to be, but you can still get where God wants you to go.

• Path, not intention, determines destination.

• Recognize that I am a _____ and not the _____.

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
Psalm 24:1 (NIV)

1) Embrace my _____.

Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds.
Proverbs 27:23 (NIV)

2) Pick a _____.

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.
Proverbs 21:5 (NIV)

• Malachi 3:8-10 (NIV)

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.

Leviticus 27:30 (NIV)

Honor the Lord with your wealth, the first-fruits of all your crops.

Proverbs 3:9 (NIV)

3) Live life _____.

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11 (NIV)

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. Whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

2 Corinthians 9:6 (NIV)

4) Accept the _____.

A. _____.

B. _____.



Restart Week Five

Opening Prayer: Jesus, we invite you into our thoughts and our conversation today. Guide us forward on your path toward a full and fulfilling life.

Talk it over: This week we are finishing up our 14 Days of Prayer. If you participated in this, or in the Prayer Retreat, or the Night of Prayer, tell us about your experience.

Alan Fadling, author of *The Unhurried Life* said, “Prayer is not something we do, it is someone we are with.” How does that statement impact the way you think about prayer?

As we close out our Restart series, share one area of your life where you have chosen to initiate a Restart: recalibrate my priorities; revive my soul; renew my strength; reclaim my future; recover my financial margin—what have you done to begin a restart in this area?

This weekend we learned about how to get on God’s path toward financial freedom and margin.

For personal reflection: On a scale of 1-10, with 1 being lowest, how much stress do you currently feel with regard to your finances? Are you in need of a financial Restart?

If you are comfortable, your welcome to share your thoughts.

Financial freedom begins with recognizing our good and generous God as the source of all I am and all I have.

Read Psalm 24:1-2 (NLT) and James 1:17 (NLT)

- As you think about God being the source of all the good things in your life, share something you have to be thankful for in this season.

Allow a few moments of silence to reflect on these questions: How are you doing at trusting God as your provider? If you have opened your heart to a relationship with God, have you also begun to open the rest of your life to him—your time, talents and treasure? If not, what is holding you back?

If you are comfortable, your welcome to share your thoughts.

The journey to financial freedom continues when we take God up on his invitation from **Malachi 3:8-10**, where he invites—and even challenges—his people to test his faithfulness by bringing the first tenth of our income back to the local church—the place where we regularly worship and receive teaching and care. For those who have never taken this step before, it can seem like a huge leap of faith. This weekend we were challenged to start somewhere, to take our own next right step toward a life of freedom and generosity.

For personal reflection: What is my next right step in regard to inviting God into my finances?

If you are comfortable, your welcome to share your thoughts.

Read Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB) and Matthew 23:23 (NIV)

From these readings, what do you think we stand to gain by engaging in a lifestyle of generosity? What do those around us stand to gain when God's people engage in a lifestyle of generosity?

If possible, share a story about how a generous person was a blessing to you in a time of need, or share how it has changed you to begin living generously, rather than selfishly.

Closing Prayer: God, thank you for giving us life and blessing us with what we need to survive and thrive. Thank you for sending Jesus—the ultimate sign of your rich love and generosity toward us. Please help us to let go of our fears, to trust in your love and to live for you. May your kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.