

# WORD LIVING

Volume 1 / Issue 2 – February 2016

## OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to offer help to families with budgeting and planning. We assist families in obtaining knowledge and awareness of all human resources/ services available to them. We sponsor FREE seminars that coordinate various services to meet changing needs.

For more information on events we sponsor visit us on FACEBOOK or our website:  
[www.stewardinaction.com](http://www.stewardinaction.com)



## WELCOME TO WORD LIVING 2016

### **“Challenge the Darkness” - Financial Wellness**

**We continue from last time looking at the light of God’s word to challenge the darkness and bring financial wellness to those in need.**

**We noted that some have fallen into the pattern of “Self Imposed Poverty.” The term means, one decides to live such that daily activities keep them in financial bondage.**

**Perhaps there is a desire to change, but the uncontrollable desire for instantaneous gratification seems to have the dominate force.**

**A key word, long removed from our vocabulary, is the word wait. The word means to stay where one is or delay action until a particular time or until something else happens.**

**When we wait, we have time to consider the short and long-term effect the decision will have on our family and ourselves.**

**Remember, uncontrollable desires are not limited to financial decisions, they affect every area of our lives, can strip us of all we possess, and weaken our relationship with God. Our Lord knows what we have need of before we ask.**

**In every decision, no matter how small, seek his will first, wait for directions and never doubt.**

**Right now would be a perfect time to ask the Lord to take charge of every aspect of your life for you cannot sustain (keep or take care of) yourself. Psalm 55:22 and I Peter 5:7 Amen.**

**Challenge the Darkness:**

**All poverty is not, “Self Imposed ” but we needed to address it first for it stands somewhat alone because there is an ability and power to change. But the poverty, that robs the poor of their rights, of respect, the power to change, and make them vulnerable to those who take unfair advantage of their situation is where we want to focus as we view the remedies from God’s word.**

**God’s Remedies to poverty are in the Old Testament. They are Justice, Gleaning, Loans, Tithes, Property Rights, and Voluntary Servitude.**



**JUSTICE:**

**The word justice is the process or result of using laws to fairly judge and punish crimes and criminals (Merriam Webster).**

**However, justice, as it relates to poverty, is ensuring the rights of the poor to satisfy their needs.**

**Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shall not respect the person of the poor, not honor the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shall thou judge thy neighbor. (Leviticus 19:15)**

**It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment. (Proverbs 18:5)**

**When it comes to justice, there should be no partiality based on financial position, race, sex, or place of birth.**

**“The poverty of our century is unlike that of any other. It is not, as poverty was before, the result of natural scarcity, but of a set of priorities imposed upon the rest of the world by the rich. Consequently, the modern poor are not pitied...but written off as trash.” John Berger**

**“Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity; it is an act of justice.”  
Nelson Mandela**

**Poverty is “a human condition characterized by the sustained or chronic deprivation of the resources, capabilities, choices, security and power necessary for the enjoyment of an adequate standard of living and other civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.” (United Nations)**

## **JUSTICE:**

**The remedies to poverty began with justice. Why is justice placed first? God’s word gives us the instructions on how we should live, and our responsibility to be good stewards of all he has entrusted in our care. We are to represent him in all actions, share the word with others, and teach our children to do likewise.**

**The wealth of a few should not strip away the rights of the masses, nor should laws be written to entrap the poor so they remain in financial bondage for generations.**

## **Justice and Ethics**

**God’s word is clear that justice, by definition, must ensure the rights of all. The word ethics, which are the moral principles that govern a person’s behavior, must be rooted in the word of God.**

**It is the ethics, morals and values that weave its behaviors into the decisions that either offers justice as per God’s word or seeks gain at the cost of others.**



**Ethics are learned behaviors and based on that training, it flows into the thought process of how we define justice. When the morals and values of the home are not based on obedience to God’s word, the results are ungodly leaders, whose total thought process is self-centered.**

## **Deuteronomy 15:11 (KJV)**

**For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.**

**Justice continues next time. His steward Karen**



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FURTHERING FAMILIES IN FINANCIAL FREEDOM

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Visit us on FACEBOOK and see  
Karen Cheathem on  
YOUTUBE.COM



*“Furthering Families in  
Financial Freedom”*

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2016

**March 11-12, 2016**

**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Retreat for Women and Teens Southside  
Tabernacle Baptist Church 3647 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Speaker: Jodi Matthews, Detroit, MI  
Financial Workshop: Karen Cheathem**

**Saturday, April 23, 2016**

**Muskegon Area Earth Fair Expo  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Montague High School  
4900 Stanton Blvd Montague, MI**

**Stop at our booth we have information to meet your  
financial needs.**