

What is your favorite kind of test? _____

DOES GOD TEST US?

- *On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. 1 Thessalonians 2:4 (Check out Psalm 26:2)*
- *Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. James 1:2-3*

THE TEST OF A "FEW THINGS":

- *After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more."*
- *His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:19-21 (Check out Matthew 25:14-28)*

THE TEST OF MONEY:

- *Do not store up for yourselves 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. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21*
- *No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. Matthew 6:24*

God, not money, is always the answer to our problems.

Money promises what God alone provides: *If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life*

for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Mark 8:34-36

- Security
- Significance
- Freedom

Money is a little thing with a big message.

THE TEST OF LOVE:

What did love cause God to give up? For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Who does God love? Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

- We give it up when our hearts are in tune with God's.
- We give it up when our lives are joyful.
- We give it up when we trust God.
- We give it up to free resources for Kingdom ministry.

RECESSION PROOF LIVING TEST:

- Today, I choose to believe money is a tool to show God and people I belong to Him and I value putting the Kingdom first.
- Today, I choose to give up ownership of my wants, my stuff, and myself and give "title" to God.
- Today, I choose to celebrate God's faithfulness to me (us) and will give my offering, my gift, and my first fruits regularly to support Kingdom ministry through TCAA.

The ultimate "give it up" test: Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5