

- i. Key Question: According to the Bible who are the rich?
- ii. If this is true, how do we embrace abundant living in a world of predatory economics?

Every. Single. One. Of us. Can embrace abundant living by developing these three spiritual skills:

I. Skill One: LOOK UP

A. God works

1. God creates, brought the people out of Egypt and established Israel to be different.
2. God was at work in Jesus in the sermon on the Mount establishing the church to be different. We are part of the Church.
3. We are called to be different than Egypt, like Israel and greedy free market capitalism left unchecked today.

B. LOOK UP: We work as part of the image of God in each of us. We are created to work. But why work? TGIF? For the weekend? For the next acquisition? The next vacation?

II. Skill Two: LOOK IN

A. Now I Timothy 6:17 rests here—in our motivation for working.

B. Everything flows from what God has done (The exodus for Israel and the cross for the Church).

1. Deut 6:10-15 - God did the heavy lifting, we reap the benefits of God at work.
2. Deut. 8:11-20--Affluence leads to amnesia, arrogance and self-sufficiency. “Do not forget” should be translated “REALLY forget.”

C. IF GOD IS remembered and held supreme, notice the abundant lives the people lived:

1. Ex 35:21-24—“And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred.”
2. Ex 36:3-7—greatest stewardship campaign ever!

D. LOOK IN—what motivates you?

III. Skill Three: LOOK OUT

A. The Common Good

1. Ex 22:21-24
2. Mt 6:1-4 and v 24
3. 1 Tim 6:18-19

B. LOOK OUT—Won’t You be my neighbor?

Call: Is your story rooted in your ability to get it done or the work of God in your life? What really motivates you? Who is our neighbor? Now what are you going to do about this?