



# RCCG OCEANIA

Stewardship

## Strategic Relationships and Financial Wisdom

### At a Glance

#### BIG IDEA

Discover how biblical figures like Joseph and Lot exemplify the power of strategic relationships and financial wisdom. Learn how to invest in your spiritual, mental, and physical well-being while maintaining integrity and excellence. Avoid the pitfalls of living beyond your means and embrace a life of genuine prosperity.

#### PRIMARY PASSAGES

Genesis 12:2-4

Proverbs 13:20

## Key Takeaways

- Strategic relationships can lead to prosperity and success.
- Living a fake life is costly and unsustainable.
- Excellence and integrity are key to standing out.
- Investing in spiritual, mental, and physical well-being is essential.
- Prayer and gratitude are vital for maintaining strong relationships.

## Introduction

The Bible offers profound insights into the importance of strategic relationships and financial wisdom. By examining the lives of figures like Abraham and Lot, we can learn how to cultivate relationships that lead to success and how to manage our resources wisely. This study will explore these themes and provide practical guidance for living a life of integrity and prosperity.

## Scripture Reading

- **Genesis 12:2-4** — Illustrates the importance of strategic relationships, as Lot prospered by associating with Abraham.
- **Proverbs 13:20** — Emphasizes the impact of relationships on one's wisdom and success.

## Key Points

- 1. The Power of Strategic Relationships** — Strategic relationships, such as the one between Lot and Abraham, can significantly impact one's prosperity. By associating with wise and successful individuals, we can elevate our own status and opportunities. The Bible shows us that these relationships are not just about personal gain but also about mutual growth and support.
- Identify and nurture relationships with individuals who inspire and challenge you.
  - Seek out mentors who can provide guidance and wisdom.
  - Be intentional about building a community that supports your spiritual and personal growth.

Scripture: Genesis 12:2-4      Proverbs 13:20

- 2. The Cost of a Fake Life** — Living beyond one's means to maintain a facade is financially draining and unsustainable. The Bible warns against the dangers of such a lifestyle, emphasizing that true prosperity comes from authenticity and wise financial management. By living within our means and being honest about our circumstances, we can avoid the pitfalls of debt and stress.
- Evaluate your current lifestyle and identify areas where you may be living beyond your means.
  - Create a budget that reflects your true financial situation.
  - Practice contentment and gratitude for what you have.
- 3. Excellence and Integrity** — Excellence in service and life, as demonstrated by biblical figures, distinguishes individuals and leads to success. Integrity is crucial in all dealings, ensuring that our actions align with our values. The Bible teaches that those who act with integrity will be blessed and respected.
- Strive for excellence in all areas of your life, whether at work, home, or in your community.
  - Ensure that your actions reflect your values and beliefs.
  - Seek feedback and continuously improve your skills and character.
- 4. Investing in Well-being** — Investing in spiritual, mental, and physical health is essential for building a strong foundation for success. This holistic approach ensures long-term prosperity and fulfillment. The Bible encourages us to care for our bodies as temples and to renew our minds regularly.
- Develop a regular routine for spiritual practices such as prayer and meditation.
  - Prioritize physical health through exercise and proper nutrition.
  - Engage in activities that promote mental well-being and stress reduction.

## Key Points (cont.)

5. **The Role of Prayer and Gratitude** – Prayer provides guidance and strength, while gratitude preserves and enhances relationships. Both are essential for a fulfilling life. The Bible highlights the importance of maintaining a thankful heart and seeking divine wisdom through prayer.
- Set aside time each day for prayer and reflection.
  - Keep a gratitude journal to remind yourself of the blessings in your life.
  - Express gratitude to those around you, strengthening your relationships.

## Group Discussion

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

## Observation

- What strategic relationships are highlighted in Genesis 12:2-4?
- How does Proverbs 13:20 describe the impact of relationships on wisdom?
- What examples of integrity and excellence can you find in the Bible?

## Interpretation

- Why do you think Lot prospered by associating with Abraham?
- How can living beyond one's means affect one's spiritual and financial well-being?
- What does it mean to invest in spiritual, mental, and physical health according to biblical principles?

## Application

- How can you apply the principle of strategic relationships in your own life?
- What steps can you take to ensure you are living authentically and within your means?
- In what ways can you cultivate a habit of prayer and gratitude in your daily routine?

## Prayer Focus

- Pray for wisdom in forming and nurturing strategic relationships.
- Ask for guidance in managing finances with integrity and wisdom.
- Seek strength to live authentically and within one's means.
- Express gratitude for the blessings and relationships in your life.

## Next Step

Reflect on your current relationships and financial habits, and identify areas for growth and improvement in alignment with biblical principles.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the Bible provides timeless wisdom on the importance of strategic relationships and financial management. By learning from the examples of figures like Abraham and Lot, we can cultivate relationships that lead to success and manage our resources wisely. Embracing authenticity, integrity, and gratitude will guide us toward a prosperous and fulfilling life.