

Crown Lesson 5  
Ashley's Answers

1.
  - a. No point in giving if don't love others. Matter of the heart how much to give. Shouldn't be done in response to pressure. God wants us to give cheerfully.
  - b. Sometimes when it comes to giving whether time, talents, or resources it can seem like an inconvenience or a burden. The best is when it comes from a place of love and generosity that overflows from how much the Lord has given me and when my heart is in it is rooted in love.
2. It's better to give than to receive is definitely a counter-cultural principle. Most people want to get not give. Most people want to keep everything for themselves and think of themselves, but we are called to think of money as God's. He owns it. He owns everything. So we need to prayerfully ask Him how and when to give as well as submit to this principle as we plan our budget.
3. There are many benefits for the giver found in Scripture
  - a. Become more wealthy, prosperity, refreshment
  - b. Storing up treasures in heaven that don't fade away and can't be taken from you
  - c. Heart is aligned with God's as you give – desires or heart will be where your treasure is
4. Can face troubles and be poor financially but have joy after giving generously. Gave freely and more than they could afford because first yielded to God and His ways. It is a privilege to give to others no matter if you are rich or poor you can always give.
5. Savings
  - a. Wise to plan ahead for what challenges may arise in the future. Foolish not to save and just spend whatever you get. Wise to save.
  - b. It is actually an act of faith and trust to save and take God at His Word that saving is wise and to follow His wisdom in finances.
6. Luke 12:21 in NLT says, "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God." Saving is wise planning for the future in case of emergency and to provide for your family and necessities. Hoarding is when you never give and you don't trust God and you just store up everything and don't think of others' needs and don't give and don't look outside yourself. You aren't God focused but almost fear focused and self-focused when you're hoarding. You are showing you don't trust God.
7. Prayerfully seek the Lord's guidance about how much you should save and how much you should give. \*\*\*
8. Gambling is defined as playing games of chance for money, betting, taking great risks and speculating. Scripture takeaways: Wealth from get-rich quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time. Hard worker has plenty of food, but a person who chases fantasies ends up in poverty. The trustworthy person will get a rich reward, but a person who wants quick riches will get into trouble. Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.
  - a. The reasons people gamble are not pleasing to the Lord because gambling is risky and means people want quick riches without doing the work to grow

wealth God's way over time. God's way is always the best way. He is the source of true riches. Jesus is our treasure. It shows the heart wants money and not God. It shows the belief that money will make you happier than a right relationship with God. It shows a lack of trust in God and His provision.

- b. No, I do not think a person striving to follow Christ should gamble because they should allow God to meet their needs. He always gives us what we need. We don't want to operate outside of His wisdom or we will be safe. We are wise to heed the Lord's gracious warnings found in His Word for our good and His glory.