2) Money

*Heb 12:11 (AMPC) - **11** For the time being no discipline brings joy, but seems grievous and painful; but afterwards it yields a peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it [a harvest of fruit which consists in righteousness—in conformity to God's will in purpose, thought, and action, resulting in right living and right standing with God].*

No discipline right now seems like fun or brings joy, but later you reap the reward!

When my soul wants to be out of control, I think about what I really want, and then I make a choice.

We do things impulsively out of our soul, emotionally.

We need self-control!

*Gal 5:22-24 (AMPC) - **22** But the fruit of the [Holy] Spirit [the work which His presence within accomplishes] is love, joy (gladness), peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness, **23** Gentleness (meekness, humility), <u>self-control (self-restraint, continence).</u> Against such things there is no law [that can bring a charge]. **24** <u>And those who belong to Christ Jesus (the Messiah) have crucified the flesh (the godless human nature) with its passions and appetites and desires.</u>*

I have the power of Holy Spirit inside of me. I'm going to stay inside the borders of God's Word and I'm going to have a life of freedom!

When you get away from the "thing" you think you want, emotions subside, and then you decide!

We need discipline.

"I owe, I owe, so off to work I go."

There's a time for miracles, but there's also a time for getting our soul under control.

You can take ownership of your life, but you're going to have to discipline yourself.

Debt steals your freedom.

We need to walk in wisdom, and we need to be willing to do without something now if it means we're going to have a happier life.

The things you just must have…you must think about what it's doing for you on the other end of that decision.

You need to live 30% below your means if you ever intend to be financially secure.

When we live on the edge we always end up in trouble.

Stability and long-term peace and joy comes from disciplining yourself now.

We can't live by impulse; we have to live by the Word of God.

God is in the miracle working business! Sometimes an even greater miracle is living in discipline in today's society.

Isaiah 54:2-3 (AMPC) - [2] Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; spare not; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes, [3] For you will spread abroad to the right hand and to the left; and your offspring will possess the nations and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

If you'll live inside the boundaries of God's Word and take your money (give some, save some, spend some), He will enlarge your borders!

Give your first fruits to the Lord.

No matter how small of a space I'm living in right now, if I respect God and His Word my borders will get bigger and bigger.

2 Cor 9:8 (AMPC) - [8] And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].

Do you need more money, or do you need to manage your money better?

We love to be entertained!

*Jer 23:29 (AMPC) - **29** Is not My word like fire [that consumes all that cannot endure the test]? says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks in pieces the rock [of most stubborn resistance]?*

3) Time – you have just as much time as everyone else.

Stop saying you don't have enough time.

Most people don't have any margin.

In the margins of your life is where you nurture all your relationships.

The Bible says 74 times, "Selah" which means pause and calmly think about the Word.

If there's a problem and we feel stressed out all the time then we are the ones that must do something about it.

You made your schedule, if you don't like it, change it!

Most of the time we sit around complaining about stuff that we don't have any intention of changing.

To change it would mean that we must have some boundaries.

The uncrucified flesh doesn't like boundaries.

God never tells us to do anything that's not going to work out good for us!

God is always trying to help you and make your life better!

If you would just change the way you talk, you'd see change!

Book by Joyce: Me and My Big Fat Mouth.

Decide: "I'm going to set some boundaries on my conversations."

Psalm 50:23 (KJV) - [23] Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

You can't just talk about what you want to talk about. You can't just stay mad at somebody or tell somebody off because you feel like it.

If you're going to live by how you feel you might as well write "DESTROYED" across your life right now and get it over with.

Your life could change drastically if you would just begin to talk different.

REFLECT QUESTIONS:

1) Where in my life have I been acting impulsively? What do I really want in that area of life?
2) Where do I not feel free in my life? Am I living inside of God's Word in that area? (Begin to study the Word in those areas)
3) How am I budgeting? Do I give my first fruits to God? Do I save some before I spend?
4) Am I living 30% below my means? (If not, begin to analyze the last couple months of your spending and make a plan!)
5) Am I happy with my current margins in my life? If not, what do I need to do to change it?
6) What have I been complaining about lately that I need to make a change in?
7) Is there anything I'm saying that doesn't line up with the Word?

VERSE MEDITATION:

Psalm 50:23 (KJV) - [23] Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

DAILY CONFESSIONS:

"I live inside of the Word of God!"