

Treasuritis

A disease caught by treasurers of long standing who become possessive about funds, information and authority over resources for which they are custodians.



1^o symptom: They regard questions about their work intrusive.

2^o symptom: Value of the Balance Sheet more important than mission.

There is a will for our life, other than our own will.
There is a will for our money, other than our own will.
There is FREEDOM in letting go of our own will.

Dr. Walter Brueggemann

Money flows through our lives just like water –

at times plentiful, at times a trickle.

I believe that each one of us is, in effect, a glass, in that we can hold only so much; after that, the water goes down the drain.

Some of us are larger glasses, some of us smaller, but we all have the capacity to receive plenty more than we need when we allow it.

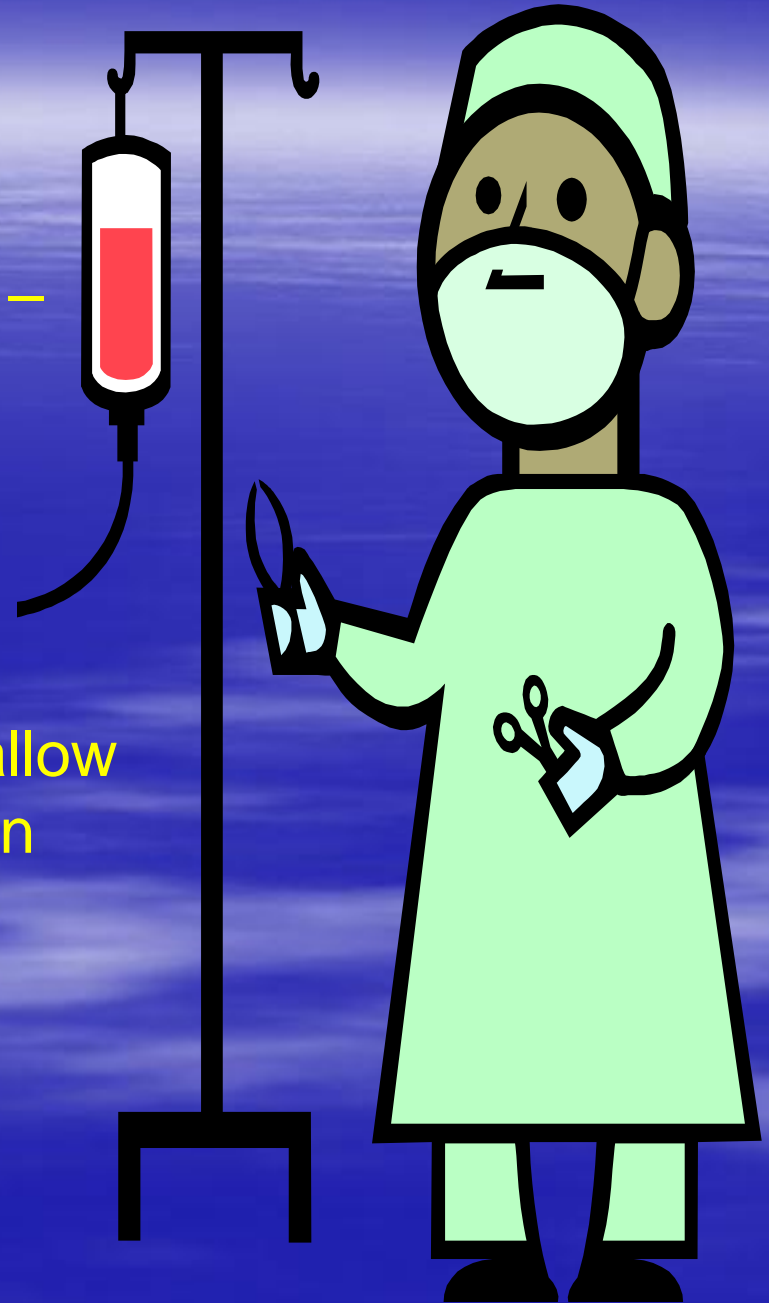
When you make an offering, the glass will be filled again and again and again.



~Suze Orman, *The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom*

Cures for treasuritis

1. Engage them in spiritual endeavour – don't allow them to become uni-dimensional
2. Create opportunity for regular accountability. Require it!
3. Become an expert yourself – don't allow them to become the sole authority on finance.
4. Have clear strategic intent including fiscal goals. (A reserve policy) Don't allow accumulation to be the default purpose



Bullied Treasurer Syndrome

Yes Sir, No Sir

3 bags full Sir

Anything you want Sir



Many treasurers feel besieged by powerful egocentric Pastors, Presidents or Boards.

They are entitled to respect and the protection of the Board. They are required to expect appropriate documentation for all disbursement.

They must use independent judgement on all decisions.

Stewardship

- Honour what has been given
- Use power with a sense of grace
- Serve purposes greater than yourself

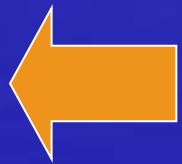


If God owns all, what does God intend to do with it?

Its characteristics include:
equity, justice, dignity,
healing of the nations,
and an end to suffering,
imprisonment, famine and death.

God expresses elaborate plans for a restored universe in scripture:

Does that mean that I will sign up as a participant in God's ultimate purpose?



The connection runs in the opposite direction:

When I am subscribed to God's work, the assets under my control get organized for God's use.

. I am privileged to serve as a conduit.

