



CROWN FINANCIAL MINISTRIES®

*God Provides™*  
*Film Learning Experience*

**Sermon Series**

(October 2009 Edition<sup>1</sup>)

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<sup>1</sup> Suggestions for additions or corrections to this Section of the Church Manual may be sent to John Riley at [jriley@crowns.org](mailto:jriley@crowns.org).



CROWN FINANCIAL MINISTRIES®

## INTRODUCTION

**(Please read this first)**

Thank you for your interest in equipping people in your church to “*learn, apply, and teach God’s financial principles so they may know Christ more intimately, be free to serve Him, and help fund the Great Commission*” (Crown’s Mission).

### **What Is *God Provides*™?**

Throughout history, people have wrestled with the concept of trusting God to meet their needs versus relying on the world. Through stirring accounts found in the Bible, God reveals how He wants to be our ultimate Provider.

This film learning experience offers a rich, dramatic journey through six theater-quality, epic short films and printed Companion Guide that can be used for sermons and individual or group study.

Through the *God Provides*™ *Film Learning Experience*, timeless illustrations will leap off the pages of Scripture and into modern lives to teach how to faithfully live with trust in God, the ultimate Provider. This storytelling format promises to reach all economic strata—from the ultra poor to those blessed with wealth—and impact families, churches, and communities around the globe with the message of hope. *God Provides*™ will move hearts and minds with His truth and lead hands to action.

The *God Provides*™ resource can be utilized in several ways:

- as a sermon series,
- as an outreach to your community,
- as a small group study,
- as a devotional,
- as a tool to be used on the mission field.



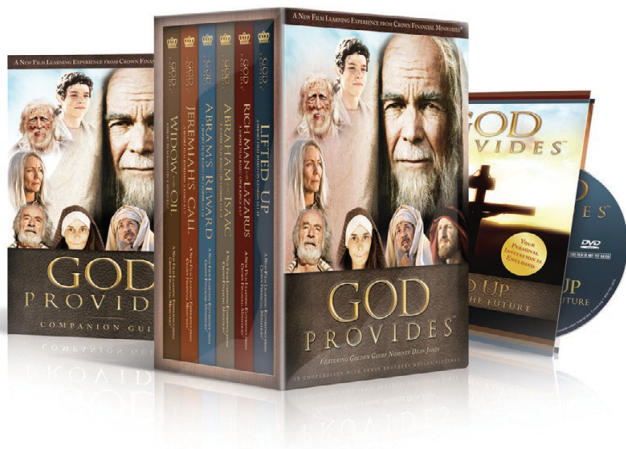
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Of course, there may be other venues in which to use this resource, and we encourage you to do just that!

**This Church Manual is intended to assist Pastors and Crown Church Coordinators to facilitate the *God Provides™ Film Learning Experience* in their congregations as a sermon series.**

(See Large Group Viewing License Plan on page 9.)

## OVERVIEW



Throughout history, people have wrestled with the concept of trusting God to meet their needs versus relying on their own efforts, other people, money, or other things society has to offer. They see man as the solution to their economy, not God.

Thankfully, through stirring accounts and parables found in the Bible, God reveals how He wants to be our Provider. These relevant stories present us wisdom, truth, encouragement and practical steps we can take to develop and deepen a relationship of trust with the God of the universe.

The *God Provides™ Film Learning Experience* offers a rich, dramatic journey through six theater-quality, epic short films and printed Companion Guide that can be used for individual or group study in a variety of ways—homes, businesses, churches, academic institutions, and more. The complete Learning Experience engages heart, head, and hands to ensure that truth learned lasts a lifetime.



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***Film Themes\****

**Widow and Oil** (2 Kings 4:1-7; 14 Minutes)

***What do you have?***

God has given us all something, and He wants us to be faithful with whatever we have.

**Jeremiah's Call** (Jeremiah 29:1-14; 16 Minutes)

***God's Design for Hope***

This poignant story shows us God's part and our part in His plans for our future—even in very challenging circumstances.

**Abram's Reward** (Genesis 12-15:6; 18 Minutes)

***Making Major Life Choices***

God is near to those who are faithful, even with things as small as money and possessions.

**Abraham and Isaac** (Genesis 22:1-18, 22 Minutes)

***Mine or His?***

God teaches Abraham that obeying Him is better than holding tightly to any of His gifts or blessings.

**Rich Man and Lazarus** (Luke 16:19-31; 17 Minutes)

***My Heart Decisions Affect Eternity***

This story dramatically illustrates God's love for the poor and His rebuke for the selfish and prideful.

**Lifted Up** (John 3:1-17; 21 Minutes)

***My Hope for the Future***

This powerful portrayal of the gospel of Jesus Christ uniquely connects the 1400-year span between the time of Moses and the ministry of Jesus as told in Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:1-17.



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\* The films are listed in the order Crown recommends, but the sequence can be modified to meet your needs.

(See Large Group Viewing License Plan on page 9.)

# ORGANIZING A SUCCESSFUL SERMON SERIES

The purpose of this section is to give you a quick overview of all the features available to make the sermon series a great success in your church. By following these steps before delivering the sermons, more people will anticipate and appreciate them. It is recommended that a schedule be developed to ensure that all essential activities are considered and included to meet your needs.

**A. PRAY**...only God can change people's hearts, and prayer is the most powerful tool.

**B. ORGANIZE** ...leaders and **ORDER** materials.

- Plan...any other use(s) of the film(s) by your church before/after the sermon series.
- Organize...ask one or two others to share the communication/promotion role.
- Order...the film(s) and license (required for access to the Sermon Notes). See Licensing on page 9 for more information.
- Prepare...to preach the message(s).

**C. CHOOSE**...determine the preaching format you want to use based on the time allotted to sermons in your church.

- Show the entire film
- Play a segment of the film, as noted in the Sermon Notes



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Regardless of the format you choose, we believe the material will make a powerful impact on your congregation.

**D. COMMUNICATE/PROMOTE...**using one or all of the following methods. (See Connect to Others on page 11 for more information about utilizing Social Media.)

- ◆ Trailers
- ◆ Posters
- ◆ Bulletin Inserts
- ◆ Banners
- ◆ Tickets
- ◆ Clip Art
- ◆ Billboards
- ◆ Radio (PSA)
- ◆ TV
- ◆ E-mailings
- ◆ Social Media

(See Large Group Viewing License Plan on page 9.)

## PASTOR PREPARATION

### **Before Delivering the Sermons**

Before using these sermons, contact your local Crown field representative (find on [Crown.org](http://Crown.org)) who can assist you in developing a financial ministry plan to provide ongoing guidance for your church members after the sermons are delivered in your church.



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### **The Films**

Read the biblical text for each film.

Review the theme for each film.

View each film.

Review the Additional Teaching – A Key Character’s Perspective for each film.

Review the Journey Notes for each film.

Review the Companion Guide for each film.

- Review the questions and the activities.

### **Sermon Outline**

Review the *God Provides*™ Sermon Outline for each film (available only with the Large Group Viewing License—see page 9 for details).

### **Personal Preparation**

Pray for God’s direction for you and your congregation while preparing the message.

Use *God Provides*™ artwork on the licensing website to create your own PowerPoint Master Slide.

Listen or Podcast Crown’s radio programs for daily wisdom and encouragement.



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Sign up for free e-communication to get monthly articles and advice on a variety of financial topics. Go to [Crown.org/SignUp](http://Crown.org/SignUp) to register.

(See Large Group Viewing License Plan on page 9.)

## POST-SERMON SERIES OPTIONS

By following these steps concurrently or after delivering the sermons, more people will anticipate and appreciate them.

Take your church members to the next level in their journey by encouraging them to do some of the following:

- Start some *God Provides*™ Small Groups – encourage your church members to go deeper in studying the principles in these films. Small groups can view the films as part of an effective learning experience using the available *God Provides*™ *Companion Guide*.
- Encourage Next Step Resources – encourage your church members to apply the biblical principles they've learned in practical ways. Next Step Resources from Crown can help them. See the last page of the sermon notes for each film for details.
- Discuss additional Crown Church Solutions with a Crown field representative in your area (find on [Crown.org](http://Crown.org)).

(See Large Group Viewing License Plan on page 9.)



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## LICENSING DETAILS

### Products

- **Boxed Set** includes all 6 films and 6 Companion Guides
  - Also includes a bonus/second copy of the “Lifted Up – A Personal Invitation” DVD to share with others.
  - Companion Guides include discussion material for all films.
- **Single Films** include a Companion Guide.
- **LIFTED UP – A Personal Invitation** is available for purchase in bulk.
  - Share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others! This special edition of the *Lifted Up* film includes a special invitation to know Christ at the end.
- **Companion Guides** are available for purchase in bulk.
  - The Companion Guide offers help for facilitators and families as well as individuals to guide, support, and even challenge you along the way.

### Large Group Viewing License Plan

- Available for the Boxed Set or for Single Films.
- Viewing option for large group settings such as a church service, camps, and community-wide events.
- The plan gives groups of 100+ unlimited use and a code for promotional tools including Sermon Notes, Film Trailers, Posters, Bulletin Inserts, and Web Banners for promoting the films in their church.



## CROWN FINANCIAL MINISTRIES®

- Cost: visit [www.crown.org/GodProvides](http://www.crown.org/GodProvides) and to learn about pricing and licensing information.
- How to order the license: Available by phone – Call 1-800-249-6320 for details.
- Be sure to check out [www.crown.org/GodProvides](http://www.crown.org/GodProvides) to...
  - Order your materials for God Provides™,
  - Register for a free user account to receive additional complimentary resources.

### Large Group Licensing FAQs

Visit [www.crown.org/GodProvides/pub/Licensing](http://www.crown.org/GodProvides/pub/Licensing) to view Frequently Asked Questions about our Large Group Licensing.

## CONNECT TO OTHERS (SOCIAL MEDIA)



If you are on Facebook, help promote *God Provides*™ to your personal network! Here is how:

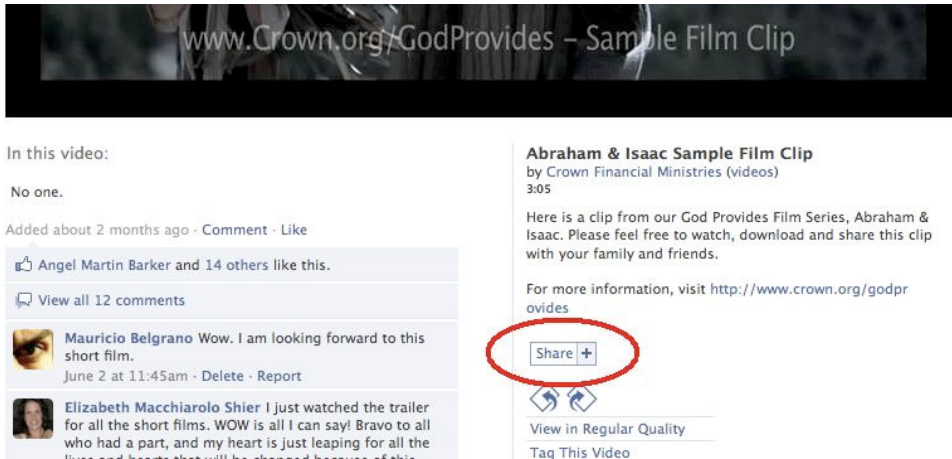
- Share the [God Provides™ Film Learning Experience Series Trailer](#) or the [Abraham & Isaac Sample Film Clip](#).

Once you click on one of the links above, you will be directed to the video on the Crown Financial Ministries Facebook page.

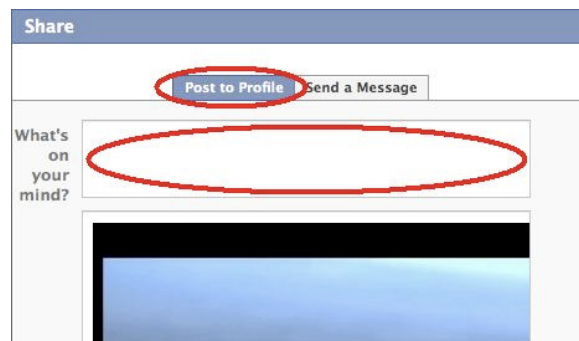


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Next, click share.



After clicking “Share,” a pop-up window will appear. Make sure the “Post to Profile” tab is clicked. If you want to type a personal message about God Provides™ and encourage your friends to watch the video, do so in the in the “What’s on your mind?” area. Remember, everyone will see what you type.



Finally, click “Share.” This will post the video on your wall as well as the news feed, allowing all your Facebook friends to see.

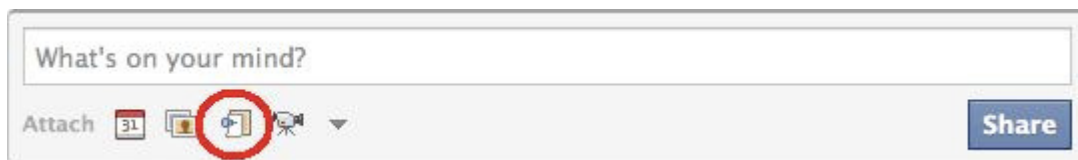




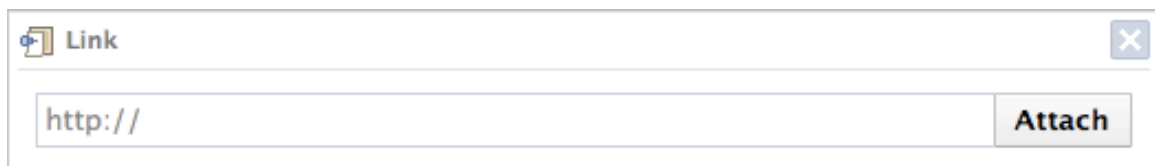
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- Share the God Provides™ web page.

From your personal Facebook profile page, click the “Link” icon under “What’s on your mind?”



After you click the “Link” icon, the below box will appear. Type [www.crown.org/godprovides](http://www.crown.org/godprovides) in the box and click “Attach.”



Next, you can type a personal message about God Provides™ and encourage your friends to visit the website. To do this, type in the blank area above the link. Remember, everyone will see what you type.

You can also choose to use a thumbnail.

Once complete, click “Share.” This will post the link on your wall as well as the news feed, allowing all your Facebook friends to see.



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Link

**God Provides™ – A New Film Learning Experience from Crown Financial Ministries**  
<http://crown.org/godprovides/>  
In 2007, after witnessing how many third world countries learn through storytelling, the vision for creating a series of short films was kindled in the heart of Chuck Bentley, CEO of Crown Financial Ministries.

Featuring renowned actor, Dean Jones as Abraham...  
3 of 4 Choose a Thumbnail  
 No Thumbnail

Share



If you are on Twitter, help promote God Provides™ to your followers! Here is how:

twitter Home Profile Find P

What are you doing? 140

Latest: NEW video trailer: Widow and Oil is one of the six films of the new God Provides Film Learning Experience... about 2 hours ago

update

- Share the God Provides™ website.

From your Twitter account, type a personal message in the “What are you doing?” box and paste the [www.crown.org/GodProvides](http://www.crown.org/GodProvides) website. Remember you are only limited to 140 characters, so you may need to use an URL shorter like Bit.ly or tinyurl.com. Finally, click “update.”



## CROWN FINANCIAL MINISTRIES®

- Share the God Provides™ video trailers.

You will find all of our God Provides™ video trailers on our Vimeo page: <http://vimeo.com/channels/godprovides>. Pick any one of the videos, and copy the URL. Next, type a personal message in the “What are you doing?” box. Next, paste the URL along with your personal message. Remember you are only limited to 140 characters, so you may need to use an URL shorter like Bit.ly or tinyurl.com. Finally, click “update.”