

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Our Main Idea:

Money is not the solution to every problem—God is. In order to break free from the power of wealth and riches, we must trust God and remember. When we remember all we have received—even if the only reward is our salvation—it makes it easier to give generously. Scripture Passages: Matthew 6:24-33, 1 Timothy 6:9-10

Key Questions:

- Have you ever found yourself saying, "Either God needs to perform a miracle or I need to win the Lottery"? How is this not putting all of your trust in God? Can money truly fix all our problems? Have you ever seen someone who won the lottery live a blessed life?
- Read Luke 6:35. Do you have trouble giving and expecting nothing in return? How can trusting God to
 care for your needs and remembering that everything you have is a gift from Him help you overcome fear
 in giving and help you to become a more generous giver?
- How serious are you about obeying God in your finances? What keeps you from obeying when things
 are already tough financially and your car needs repairs or you have a leak in your roof? Does tithing
 ever make sense?
- If you are going to live the lifestyle of a giver, you are going to have to make lifestyle changes that allow you to give. Do you need to make some adjustments? If so, what do you need to change in order to be a grateful, generous giver who remembers God's gracious gifts?
- We learned about the spirit of pride, which wants people to think that we paid more, and the spirit of
 poverty, which wants people to think that we paid less. Have you witnessed these two spirits at work in
 your life or in the life of someone you know? How do these two spirits take the focus off from God?

Next Steps:

- · Ask God to reveal to you what fears are keeping you from trusting Him with your finances.
- Pick a book on finances or giving to read and study. Here are a few suggestions: The Blessed Life by Robert Morris, The Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn, Total Money Makeover by Dave Ramsey, Money, Possessions, and Eternity by Randy Alcorn

Experience

Your Relationship with God

How can you know where your heart is? First, ask yourself these questions: Am I looking to God or to people to meet my needs? Do I get angry or resentful with people who don't help me as I want them to? Do I blame others for my circumstances?

Equip

Your Relationship with Others

Pick a video Bible Study from Rightnow Media about Biblical Finance and watch it with your spouse or a group of friends. Share what you are learning with others -

www.rightnow.org/Media/Channel/12

Engage

Your Relationship with the World

Pray for opportunities to be a blessing to others. How can your generosity be an opportunity to share Christ with others?