

Group Discussion Questions

Week 1



Life.Money.Hope. Week 1

The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

Proverbs 22:7 (NRSV)

- Describe a time in your life when you felt like a slave or that you had no options because of a debt you owed.
- One of the most important pieces of financial advice God offers is to get out of debt because debt creates risk in our lives. What impact has debt had in your life?
- How would your life change if you were completely debt free? What would you do differently? If you are debt free, share what impact it has had on your life and what steps you took to become debt free.

A foolish man devours all he has.

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV)

- If someone was to look at your checkbook, what could they tell about you based on what you spend money on? Do your spending habits match your core values?
- In order to live a life of true financial peace, God says we must act our wage by not spending more than we make. What are some specific areas that you tend to overspend?

For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it?

Luke 14:28 (KJV)

- Living on a budget is the key to not only getting out of debt, but also staying out of debt. For those that currently have a budget, share with your group how you budget and how it impacts your finances. For those that currently do not have a budget, what had kept you from creating a budget?

In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil.

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV)

- Proverbs 21:20 calls those who save and invest to be wise. Describe a time when saving money paid off for you by allowing you to financially handle an emergency or to pay for a large expense without going into debt.

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house.

Malachi 3:10 (NKJV)

- How has God blessed you through tithing? How have those blessings affected your relationship with God?

Final thought: With your group, lift up each other's financial needs in prayer. Commit to specific goals each one would like to accomplish over the next 3 weeks. Ask God for wisdom in understanding His plan for your finances.

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You Need a Plan

In order to get the most out of this series, below are some optional activities you might consider doing this week. These are designed to help you identify specific financial goals you would like to reach.

1. Create a financial mission statement. Proverbs 29:18 tells us that “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” In one sentence, cast a vision for what you want to accomplish regarding your finances over the next few weeks. Your mission statement can relate to a long-term or short-term goal. Here are some examples of some possible mission statements you might want to consider.

- My financial goal is to be debt free in five years with no car payments, house payments or credit card payments.
- Our goal as a family is to increase our income so that we may increase our giving over our normal tithe.
- My goal is to start a savings plan that will help pay for my child’s college tuition.
- My personal goal for my finances is to invest approximately 20 percent of my income that will be used for my retirement.

2. Write your financial core values. List three to five core values that will define the focus of your finances. These values can relate directly to your mission statement. Here are some examples of some core values:

- To not spend more than we make.
- To not utilize credit cards.
- To do everything possible to stick to our budget.
- Saving and investing a certain percentage of our income for emergency situations.
- Giving above and beyond our normal tithe not only to our church but other charities and people in need.

Here are some suggestions you may want to use for your time with God this week:

Day 1: Read Proverbs 22:7. Have an honest conversation with God about your debts. Ask God to give you wisdom and vision in attempting to get out of debt. Pray for those you know that are struggling with debt.

Day 2: Read Proverbs 21:20. Ask God to help you act your wage. Pray that He will give you wisdom in making financial decisions.

Day 3: Read Luke 14:28. Commit to God in prayer to creating a budget. If you already have a budget, then renew your commitment to that budget.

Day 4: Read Proverbs 21:20. Commit to God in prayer that you will save and invest your money. Ask Him for guidance on how to save and where to invest.

Day 5: Read Malachi 3:10. Commit to God in prayer that you will tithe. Pray that God will give you opportunities to freely give to your church or others you know that are in need.

Additional Resources:

Go online and check out www.lifechurch.tv/lgresources for weekly LifeGroups Video Curriculum.

Available in the following formats:

- Podcast on iTunes
- Podcast on Apple TV
- .ISO file
- Streaming Video