

Group Discussion Questions

Week 2



Life.Money.Hope. Week 2

- What is the most “questionable” thing you have purchased on credit?

Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

Proverbs 6:5 (NIV)

- Has having debt in your life ever made you feel like you were being hunted? If so, how?
- In order to get out of debt, it will take the gazelle-like intensity described in Proverbs 6:5. What are some specific areas of your financial life where you need to use gazelle-like intensity to get out of debt?
- Debt can cause our lives to spiral out of control. How have you seen debt cause this loss of control in your own life or the life of someone else?

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

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV)

- The first step to breaking away from the bondage of debt is to save. Describe how you currently save and invest your money. For those that successfully save, share any advice or tips you have with the rest of the group. For those that are not saving, what are some of the challenges preventing you from saving?

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

Proverbs 22:7 (NRSV)

- The second step to getting out of debt is to stop borrowing money. How do you think lives would be changed financially if people stopped using credit cards or taking out unnecessary loans?

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

Matthew 7:7 (NIV)

- The third step is to simply pray. Share a time when God met a financial need of yours through prayer. What did this situation teach you about the power of prayer?
- The fourth step is to sell something. What are some things you could sell to help improve your current financial situation? Are you willing to sell them? Why or why not?

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest

Proverbs 6:6-8 (NIV)

- The final step to breaking free from debt is to get a part-time job or find another way to bring in extra income. What are some challenges to doing this? How could your LifeGroup help you with this step?

Final thought: With your group, pray for those currently struggling with bondage to debt. Ask God for His wisdom and guidance in taking the steps needed to get out of debt.

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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 work towards breaking out of the bondage of debt.

1. Fill out the debt snowball worksheet. This worksheet will allow you to write down all of your current debts from the smallest balance to the largest. Use this sheet as a guideline to paying off those debts. The first step is to pay minimum payments on all debts except for the smallest one you have. This will allow you to build momentum in tackling your debts head on. You can find this form in your talk notes from this past weekend or see one of your pastors for more details.

2. Fill out a budget. If you have never done a budget in your household before, start with a simple one. Take time to write down your regular monthly expenditures and income. Next, determine where you can eliminate unnecessary spending as well as determining ways you can begin saving money. If you need forms to create your budget, contact your campus LifeGroups pastor.

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

Day 1: Read Proverbs 6:5. Pray and ask God for gazelle-like intensity in dealing with your finances. Ask for His help in getting out of any debt you may be in.

Day 2: Read Proverbs 21:20. Pray and ask God to give you guidance in how to save and invest your money. Ask for His wisdom in making the right financial decisions.

Day 3: Read Proverbs 22:7. Confess those areas of your life where your spending is out of control. Ask for God's help.

Day 4: Read Matthew 7:7. Spend time in prayer thanking God for His answered prayers with regards to your finances. Praise Him for all He has done in your life.

Day 5: Read Proverbs 6:6-8. Pray that God strengthen your commitment to follow His plan for your life and the resources He has entrusted you with.

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