

Real Life Christian Church | Discussion Guide | Justin Miller | October 20, 2024

Main Idea: Money matters because it impacts every part of our lives, and God cares deeply about how we manage what He's entrusted to us. The Bible teaches us principles about stewardship—understanding that everything we have belongs to God, and we are called to use it wisely for His glory.

Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (Choose one)

- Pastor J shared a conversation with a young man who asked, "What's the most important thing outside of faith that I need to get right?" How would you answer that question for someone in their 20s?
- Have you ever found yourself in a situation like the Pastor J's daughter, Elianah, where you were put in charge of something and felt the weight of responsibility? How did you handle it?
- Pastor J talked about his and Robin's early struggles with debt and how they made sacrifices to get free
 from it. What's the most significant financial lesson you've learned, either from personal experience or
 from someone else's story?

Start Thinking: Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- Read 1 Timothy 6:10: "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."
 What does this passage say about the dangers of putting money above God? How have you seen this happen in your life or others'?
- **Psalm 24:1-2** reminds us that everything belongs to God. How does understanding that all we have comes from Him change the way we view our finances?
- In **Luke 16:10-12**, Jesus teaches that those who are faithful with little will be entrusted with much. What does it mean to be faithful with "little" in your current financial situation?

Start Sharing: Choose a question to create openness.

- Have you ever felt like you were "robbing God" by not tithing or giving? How did you come to terms with
 the idea that robbing God is actually robbing yourself—both of His blessing and of a powerful
 testimony? What steps did you take to realign your finances with God's principles?
- Proverbs 22:7 says that "the borrower is slave to the lender." How does debt affect your ability to live freely as a follower of Christ? What practical steps are you taking or could you take to reduce financial burdens?

Start Doing: Commit to taking the Next Step and living it out.

- Reflect on **1 Corinthians 4:2**: "It is required in stewards that one be found faithful." How can you practice better stewardship in your current financial situation? Make a plan this week to improve how you manage God's resources.
- **Tithing** is a principle that puts God first in our finances. If you aren't already, consider starting by giving a portion of your income to God as an act of faith. If you are already tithing, how can you deepen your generosity to others?
- The message emphasized "Head, Heart, and Hands." Take time to evaluate your financial mindset (Head), your contentment (Heart), and your generosity (Hands). What is one area you can focus on improving this week?

Start Praying: Close your time together in prayer. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray for a renewed sense of financial peace and trust in God's provision. Ask God to help you see your finances from His perspective and to be a faithful steward of what He's given you.
- Pray for the grace to be content with what you have, and to be wise in how you use it. Ask for opportunities to bless others with the resources God has entrusted to you.
- Open your hands in prayer, asking God to help you release any financial anxieties or burdens. Invite Him to guide you as you steward His blessings faithfully.