

## Life Group Discussion Guide - January 28th 2018

### *Money Matters*

*The subject of money in the church is touchy, delicate and even divisive yet the bible references it consistently from cover to cover. Today we will look at some of the New Testament references that deal with **Money, Man's Heart & Giving To The Ministry.***

**Q?** Why do you believe so many Christians are uneasy or touchy about the subject of money and giving in church?

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**Read Luke 16:10-14 aloud in your group:**

In this parable Jesus refers to money as “**least**” or “**very little**”. The point he is this - in the grand scheme of all that God wants to entrust to our management, life and experience, money is of least importance and value to him. Yes money matters and yes God uses it **but** ... it is less important than everything else.

**Q?** Why does Jesus use our stewardship of “money” as a proving ground to decide whether or not he can trust us with truly valuable things?

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**Q?** What do you think “**true riches**” are? (**Hint:** They fall under the category of spiritual things) **Discuss:**

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**Q?** Why in the perfect wisdom of God does he limit or withhold spiritual riches & responsibility to those who cannot be faithful stewards of money?

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**Verse 13 says:** “we cannot “**serve**” both God and money.”

**The greek definition of “serve” δουλεύω douleuó - (dool-yoo'-o)**

*Is- (to obey, be subject to, devoted to, to yield obedience, to be bound to. To willingly give over the prerogative to be self-governing.)*

**Q?** Based on the greek definition of “**serv**ing” and **1 Timothy 6:10**, what are some ways that we find ourselves **loving and serving** money?

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**Q?** How does faithful financial giving to the Lords work confront a devotion or loyalty to money in our hearts?

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**Read 2 Corinthians 9:6- 9 aloud in your group**

**Notice:** Giving was assumed by Paul to the Corinthian believers he was writing to, yet he did not specify a percentage, leaving the law of liberty and love fueled by the Holy Spirit to lead each giver.

**Q?** From this passage do you see any spiritual principals and personal promises attached to financially supporting the ministry?

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**Read 2 Corinthians 9:10-15 aloud in your group**

**Q?** From this passage what are the personal promises and Kingdom outcomes born from our financial support of the ministry?

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**Think a little deeper on this next question:**

**Q?** The money your job gives you represents what? ... What significance does money have in your existence and why? **Discuss:**

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**Based on your answers and ideas from the previous question:**

**Q** How might the practice of giving a “tithe” or 10% of your income to fund the ministry of Jesus be significant in you and through you to reach the world for Christ? **Discuss:**

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**Faith Invitation:** We are inviting each believer from now until summer **(Hopefully Beyond As Well)** to trust God in their finances by committing to faithful consistent financial giving. 10% is a great place to start but God knows your heart and budget. The blessing is in the obedience to simply sow consistent seed with a cheerful heart. Look at what you might trim from your budget to make room and pray about what the Lord is leading you to give. We are praying that you will experience the joy, freedom and blessing that comes to those who give.

**Close your group by praying over the finances of those present as well as Redeem Church.**