



SG | Small Groups

How do we get a grip on our money?

1. Understand it.

For the **love** of money is a root of all kinds of evil. *1 Timothy 6:10*
Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is **never satisfied** with their income. *Ecclesiastes 5:10*

2. Keep track of it.

Be sure you **know the condition** of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever... *Proverbs 27:23-24*

3. Be content with what you have.

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be **content** with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." *Hebrews 13:5*

The key to getting a grip on your money is deciding that you have enough.

4. Pay off debt.

...the borrower is the **slave** to the lender. *Proverbs 22:7*

Your money has no potential impact for the future because it is obligated to the past.

"There is no good time to begin paying off debt. There is only today."
— Cherie Lowe

5. Save and invest.

The **wise** have wealth and luxury, but **fools** spend whatever they get. *Proverbs 21:20*

6. Be generous.

"The average Christian only gives away 2.17% of their income."
— Dave Ramsey

A **generous** person will **prosper**; whoever refreshes others will be **refreshed**. *Proverbs 11:25*

"Give, and it will be **given** to you...For the **measure** your use, it will be **measured** to you." *Luke 6:38*

Group Prep

In preparation for your small group, please read 1 Timothy 6:1-21 and Matthew 6:19-24, then answer the following discussion questions prior to attending.

Introduction

Money issues are the #1 cause of divorce in America. Seven out of ten families live paycheck to paycheck. Over 64% of Americans would not be able to afford a \$1,000 emergency. People are stressed out over money, but it doesn't have to be that way. God's Word provides us over 2,500 verses to help us get a grip on how we manage money and possessions.

Discussion Questions

1. Over the course of your life, what monetary goals would you like to achieve? Are you currently in a position to achieve those goals? Share with the group what kind of plan you have in place to achieve your goals.

2. Understanding God's view of money is key to achieving healthy financial goals. Describe one idea from this weekend's message that stuck out to you and why.

In 1 Timothy 6, how does Paul describe contentment? Read Hebrews 13:5. Describe one or two situations in someone's life that may show he or she lacks contentment, then describe ways someone's life may show they are content. How does your life differ from the way Paul described contentment?

3. In 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Paul gives Timothy advice on what commands to provide the church about money. What are these commands? How could following these commands change the way you think about your finances?

Timothy is supposed to give these instructions specifically to the "rich." Describe those you would consider to be "rich in this world?" Do you consider yourself "rich?" Why or why not?

Read Proverbs 11:25. When was the last time you looked at your financial situation and felt refreshed? If you put yourself in a position to do "good works" with your money, what kind of impact could you make on your family, the people around you, or on this world?

4. After reading Matthew 6:19-24, how do you feel you may be unintentionally attempting to serve two masters – God and money? What warning does Jesus give us regarding money?

Read Proverbs 21:20. Paying off debt, saving, investing, and being generous are some of the financial goals God desires for us. Are there any financial goals you would add to your list after having this discussion? Practically, what does trusting God with our finances look like? Based on where you currently are in your financial life, what are three steps you could take to begin trusting God with your finances?

Outreach: Groups in Action

As a small group, start collecting hats and gloves (new or good condition) for the cold weather approaching. You can drop them off at the information counter during a weekend service throughout October.

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____

I'm accountable for _____, and their action steps are _____

My memory verse is _____

This coming week, I'm praying for: