

WEEK 10

GOD + MONEY

OBJECTIVE

Our goal is to better understand how to be great stewards of all that God has given us. God has a lot to say about our possessions. In fact, one act of generosity saved us all.

CHECKLIST

- Pray over each group member by name.
- Send out mid-week text to check in with Small Group members.
- Check out the Ramsey+ free subscription to everyone at Rock City Church. Be ready to share this link with anyone in your group who would benefit from it.
- Three weeks remain in our semester. Begin to identify who in your group can lead a FOUNDATIONS group next Small Group session.
- Invite group members to bring any questions from last week's topic.
- Remind group members of upcoming Next Steps opportunities (Baptism, Connect, etc.).
- Select someone to share their story next week.

SMALL GROUP

SOCIAL: 10 MINUTES

Welcome the group and create connections for group members to one another.

ICEBREAKER: 5 MINUTES

"What are the last three transactions that have come out of your bank account?"

STORY: 3 MINUTES

At least a few days in advance, ask one person from the group to share their story of what their life was like before Jesus and when they made the decision to follow Jesus. (Be sure to hold them to a 3-minute limit!)

INTRODUCTION: 5 MINUTES

Remind attendees of the purpose of this group and the importance of their (and your) commitment to it. Celebrate any milestones or next steps of individuals in the group.

Allow participants to share their thoughts on the previous week's devotional and encourage them to ask any questions they had written down regarding last week's topic.

"How did you see God move through you this week through your devotions?"

"What questions did you write down?"

VIDEO: 15 MINUTES

Set up and prepare for this week's video teaching.

"Here we go, let's talk about...GOD and MONEY. God has a lot to say about this topic. Let's surrender what we may think about our money and dive in to hear how God wants us to use what He has entrusted us."

READ: 2 MINUTES

Open your Bibles together and read through this week's passage. Be sure that everyone is able to find the book, chapter and verses and encourage group members to take turns reading.

"I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 3:6-12

DISCUSSION: 30 MINUTES

Lead the group through the reflection questions, encouraging them to even ask their own questions. (This is not the time for the leader to talk, but for participants to engage with each other. Rule of thumb: you talk 30% of the time, they talk 70% of the time.) Be sure that no one or two people dominate the conversation, but you're facilitating and directing the participation of everyone.

QUESTION 1

We learned that everything we have ultimately belongs to God. Are you engaging in wise spending habits that honor the gifts God has entrusted you with? In what ways could you adjust your lifestyle to be a better steward?

QUESTION 2

We are created to be generous. Share about a time when you were the recipient of generosity. When were you able to be generous?

QUESTION 3

Share your tithe story. When did you start and how is it going? If you haven't yet started tithing, what is the barrier to taking this step?

QUESTION 4

Have you ever given so much that it hurt? Would you say you did it freely and joyfully?

PRAYER: 15 MINUTES

Split into groups of two and pray.

Prayer Focus: Share how you want to grow in this area of financial health. Then, ask for prayer that God would reveal ways to put what we learned into practice.

NEXT STEPS: 5 MINUTES

Introduce the materials and encourage members to engage in their weekly devotions for the coming week. Discuss any upcoming events or opportunities for them to take next steps (attending worship experiences, baptism, Rock City Connect, serving beyond our walls).

- As a church, we have available a free online subscription that provides financial tools to learn and practice stewardship. Share the link from the leader hub and encourage group members to access the [Ramsey+ Subscription](#) for Financial Peace University, a budgeting app and additional resources to help in their financial journey.
- Encourage everyone in your group to take the ["Get Started Assessment"](#) from the Ramsey+ homepage to help identify what steps they need to take to grow in peace and freedom in their finances.