



FINANCES

Leader's Guide

Overview

Jesus warned us about the dangers of putting money in the place of God in our lives. In fact he said in Matthew 6:24, "You cannot serve both God and Money." In part 9 of our Basecamp series we will look at four biblical principles focusing on financial stewardship. This practical teaching will help you understand and implement the basic biblical concepts of honoring God with your finances.

Suggested Format (90 minute meeting)

- 15 minutes – Greet & Treat. Welcome people. Have sticky nametag for each person.
- 30 minutes – Intro & Video. Introduce the topic, hand out blanks and show the video.
- 35 minutes – Discussion. Lead the group through an honest discussion using questions below.
- 10 minutes – Prayer. Ask for prayer requests, and have several people pray.

Specific Session Tips

- Follow up from last week and ask people to share their experiences in trying to implement Bible Devotionals in their own lives – specifically, share their S.O.A.P. entries. Was it a success? Failure? Why?
- Keep in mind, this topic can be a bit "touchy" for some folks. We want to give grace and allow people to wrestle with God over their giving practices.
- Don't be afraid to broach the fact that many people have been "burned" by churches over-emphasizing tithing. But, make sure we don't 'throw the baby out with the bathwater'.

Weekly reminders

- Pray! Before your meeting, pray for each person by name and ask God to speak to their hearts!
- At the end of the meeting, remind people of who is on for treats the next week and what your topic will be.
- Pray at the end. Make sure to end ON TIME (You can always tell people they can stay – but give those who need to leave the option as soon as the class time expires).

Possible Discussion Questions

1. Ice Breaker: "If you had \$10,000 that you had to spend (if not, lose it!) today, what would you buy?"
2. Ask the group, "What is the most difficult aspect of establishing the habit of having giving consistently?" What are your personal challenges?
3. What specifically do you think would change in your life if you honored God consistent with your money?
4. What is one practical step you can make that would begin the process of honoring God financially?

Applications & Assignments (For next week)

1. Consider making a simple budget – starting by keeping track of every dollar you spend for one week.
2. Write down one way you can be generous this week – be specific (then follow through):
