C' one**church**

bigldea small group discussion

We can be a nation that makes interest or that pays interest. The choice should be obvious. Yet, somewhere along the way, our national perspective on that choice changed. Debt used to be a burden of the poor. Now it's a 'tool' used by everyone from the richest to the poorest. We need to be reminded of God's financial wisdom—wisdom that has been in the bible for 2,000 years. Maybe now is the time to start listening.



BIG IDEA: Credit is reaching into your future and grabbing money to spend it in the now.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. For decades, America has operated on borrowed money, paying for the past rather than planning for the future. Who do you personally know that is currently suffering the consequences of this national fiscal irresponsibility? Are you?
- 2. Does the idea of not borrowing money to purchase an expensive item such as a car sound absurd or unreasonable? Why?
- 3. In the message, Chris defines credit as reaching into your future, grabbing cash, pulling it into the present, and spending it. In what ways does that definition challenge you to change your financial behavior?
- 4. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read Matthew 6:24.* How does your current financial situation affect your relationship with God?
- 5. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read Proverbs 22:7.* Do you feel enslaved to any lenders? If so, what freedoms have you lost because of your financial obligations?
- 6. In the message, Chris talks about prioritizing giving and saving your earnings above spending them. How might that approach change money's influence on your life?

MOVING FORWARD

Are you currently saddled with debt? If the shortest path to financial strength is generally the best path to take, what first step can you take this week to begin eliminating your debt?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender. Proverbs 22:7