

MOMENTUM

Dear Life Group Leaders,

In this week's segment of "Momentum" I'll focus on those of us who find ourselves in a dark place in life, whether financially, morally, or otherwise. God's desire is to help us find a way out of this dark place, and in order to get out, we have to figure out how we got there in the first place. My prayer is that you lead your group with grace and encouragement knowing that people need a lift in life.

Have a great week!

**All the best,
Pastor Ryan**

ICEBREAKER

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic in a light way.

- Have you ever made a purchase and immediately regretted it? Share your story and discuss the emotions involved in the purchase?

Before entering a discussion begin by reading together these scripture passages.

Haggai 1: 5-7; Luke 15: 11-21; Proverbs 18: 1 [ESV]

DISCUSSION

1. What did you enjoy about the message this week?

2. Have you ever heard the story of the prodigal son? (**Luke 15: 11-21**) Spend a few minutes discussing this passage. What stands out to you? What encourages you about this story? Can you see the four steps the son took to restore his life?

Hint:

- Acknowledge the reality of his situation
- Develop a plan
- Do it now

- Humbly ask the Father for help

3. Pastor Ryan said self-destructive behavior is the product of our life getting out of order in any area - spiritually, emotionally, relationally or physically. Share with the group which area of your life needs the most attention right now and what steps are necessary to get it back in order.

4. Read **Proverbs 18:1**. (*Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment. Proverbs 18:1 ESV*) Think of a time you found yourself isolated. Share who encouraged you during that time and how you connected to life giving relationships.

5. Pastor Ryan explained that God isn't looking for perfection, He's looking for honesty. Take a moment to evaluate your life right now - is there something you are struggling to acknowledge? Share what steps you will take to begin developing your plan of attack.

NEXT STEP

Are you experiencing a financial hardship? Are you struggling to create the right momentum?

Let us know what you're dealing with! (*Leaders, please appeal to your group to follow the steps below offered by Pastor Ryan and the Lead team*) Ask God for wisdom in developing a plan of attack to get you out of the mess. Carry out the plan, humbly asking God to help you find freedom.

This week Pastor Ryan outlined three potential next steps in developing a plan of attack in your finances.

1. **One-on-one coaching.** We have financial planners who can help you with the daily practical steps of budgeting, saving, spending, and giving.
2. **Grab a copy of Dave Ramsey's book, "Total Money Makeover."** Just let us know you would like a copy and we'll have one waiting at Next Steps when you return to church next Sunday.
3. **Financial Peace University.** Attend FPU starting in January 2020. This is a small group course that last 9 weeks and teaches you the fundamentals of stewardship.

If someone missed the opportunity to sign up for these last Sunday, please lead them to email us at myhome@centrallife.org with the subject line: "Momentum Steps"

PRAY

Ask the Lord if there are any areas of your life that need to be addressed in this way. Confess the reality of your situation to Him and ask Him to help you find the way out. Ask Him for wisdom and insight to develop a plan of attack. Pray that He would show you the right people with whom you can trust the delicacy of your situation. Continually surrender the situation to the Lord, trusting Him to carry you through it.

Pray for each others needs with this in mind.

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