STUDY GUIDE

Leadership Tip!

Confidentiality is an important trait as a life group leader. Often information that is shared in the group is done so because of the relationships built. A healthy practice is to leave those conversations in the group for prayer.

LET'S TALK - SPENT

STARTER QUESTIONS:

What stood out to you from this week's message?

How important is wealth to you?

MAIN IDEA:

This week's main point is that EVERYTHING that we have belongs to God. We all have beliefs about money and often try to trick ourselves into believing that money is not that important to us. Since the Old Testament, wealth, not necessarily money but resources, has been a point of contention that Christians struggle with.

How have you struggled with the issue of money?

Key Scripture:

"David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "... Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand... O LORD our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you."

I Chronicles 29:10-16 (NIV)

What are David's thoughts as he said this prayer?

One of the underlying causes of money problems is our desire to not want to share what we have. The desire to hold tight to what we have, can cause us to create problems both spiritually in our relationship with God, emotionally with others and physically it can impact our health because of the burden it creates.

Where do you struggle with sharing your resources?

God challenges us to be good managers of our resources, which OBTW belong to him in the first place.

What are some of the ways that we can learn to be better managers of our resources?

One of the main lessons from this week was learning to not be a "wanter". There are resources that can help us and things we can practice that will help us learn to be better stewards of our resources and not let greed creep into our souls.

Resources such as the class Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey are available and anyone that thinks they not suited for this program should enroll.

We also should get back to the basics of our spiritual side and practice our fundamentals..... PUSH (Pray until something happens), take steps of faith, and practice giving more.

James writes....

"Everything good comes from God. Every perfect gift us from him. These gifts come down from the Father." - James 1:17 (ERV)

The challenge for this week was to practice saying "THANK YOU GOD" for every moment. Thanking him for everything in our lives, not just the resources we have been blessed with.

Who is willing to take this challenge with me?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

What steps will you take this week to no take everything we have for granted?

As Christians, dealing with money and managing resources is part of our everyday lives, but it doesn't mean that we are necessarily good at it. Without the love of our Father, we will certainly struggle.

"Life is unpredictable, but God is constant!"

How can our group pray for you?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE:

1 Timothy 6:10

SPENT

"Mine, Mine, All Yours" November 13, 2016

These 3 concepts are connected in life:

Beliefs --- Decisions ---- Outcomes

Money = <u>Happiness</u>

Money is the root of all evil.

"For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows."

1 Timothy 6:10 (NLT)

"David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "... Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand... O LORD our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you."

I Chronicles 29:10-16 (NIV)

TRUTH: <u>Everything</u> belongs to God!

Definition: Stewardship – managing the owner's resources

Advantages of being a good Manager:

1. You can stop feeling so guilty.

When you're a manager you don't feel guilty, you feel responsible.

- 2. Your 'wanter' starts to shrink
- 3. You worry a lot less about money.
- 4. You're more grateful for what you do have.

"Everything good comes from God. Every perfect gift is from him. These good gifts come down from the Father."

James 1:17 (ERV)