

# FEAR NOT

## What if There's Not Enough

### FINANCIAL FEARS

These are rocky times financially. Some of us look ahead and worry how we'll pay the rent, mortgage, gas or grocery bill. Others of us have no worry about putting food on the table, but panic over having fewer zeros in the bank or retirement account. To all of this God says, "I've got an answer." Today we'll explore that!

### RIGHT APPROACH (Philippians 4:11-13)

### FINANCIAL FREEDOM =

- ▶ A life free of \_\_\_\_\_ about money  
1 Timothy 6:6 / Hebrews 13:5
- ▶ A life free from the \_\_\_\_\_ of money  
Proverbs 23:4-5 / Ecclesiastes 5:10-11

### FINANCIAL FREEDOM... STARTS WITH HOW WE THINK

1. Money is not an accurate measure of \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Timothy 6:5-10 / James 2:5 / Matthew 19:24 / Job 1-2
2. Never let \_\_\_\_\_ determine \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Timothy 6:17 / James 1:9-10
3. Never assume \_\_\_\_\_ equals \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Timothy 6:17 / Luke 12:15-21 / Proverbs 11:28 / Proverbs 18:11-12

4. Never confuse \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Timothy 6:18-19 / Proverbs 11:24-26 / Proverbs 28:27

### FINANCIAL FREEDOM... FLOWS OUT OF WHAT WE DO

1. \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_.  
Proverbs 27:23-27 / Proverbs 19:2-3
2. \_\_\_\_\_ within your \_\_\_\_\_.  
Proverbs 21:17 / Proverbs 12:9 / Proverbs 22:7
3. \_\_\_\_\_ some for \_\_\_\_\_.  
Proverbs 21:20 / Proverbs 13:22
4. \_\_\_\_\_ some \_\_\_\_\_.  
Proverbs 3:9-10 / Ephesians 4:28 / 1 Timothy 6:18-19

ISAIAH 41:10 - *Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*



# ***FEAR NOT***

## **What if There's Not Enough LifeGroup Discussion Questions**

### **Prayer**

Take a few moments to pray for one another. Remember to offer praise or prayer for the financial provision for each member in your group.

### **My Story—Answer One of the Following**

Option #1: How would you describe your parents' approach toward finances and money management? How did that example influence you?

Option #2: Share a time when you over-extended yourself with a purchase that you really couldn't afford at the time. How did you rationalize the purchase? How much did it end up really "costing" you?

### **Digging Deep**

1) How has your journey of finances impacted your faith? What fears or struggles has it brought about? What is your reaction to this statement, "Our spiritual growth is directly related to how we steward our financial resources?"

2) Read Galatians 5:1. What does it mean to be free in Christ? How does this coincide with our desire to achieve financial freedom?

3) Read Philippians 4:11-13. Explain in your own words what the Apostle Paul is saying here. What does it mean to have "learned" to be content? Why does he call the learning of this attitude a "secret?"

### **Digging Even Deeper**

4) Read 1 Timothy 6:5-10. Take a moment to list the facts and dangers presented in these verses. How does this passage hold a mirror up to our own thoughts and desires about money? What attitudes are we commanded to pursue regarding money?

5) Why is it that, even among well-meaning believers, we tend to think that financial abundance is a sign of God's favor and/or tending to equate self-worth with net worth? What is the true measure of God's favor on a person's life? (Hint: Micah 6:8)

6) Read 1 Timothy 6:17, Luke 12:15-21, Ecclesiastes 5:11-12, Proverbs 11:28 and 18:11-12. Why does God repeatedly tell us that material abundance does not equal security? Where, or in what, are we called to place our ultimate trust?

7) Read 2 Corinthians 9:7 and 1 Timothy 6:18-19. One of the dangers of loving material wealth is that it results in a reticence to share what we have or establish a generous lifestyle. Why is joyful giving an act of obedience to God? What grade would God give you in the area of generosity toward others? What steps would you need to take to improve that grade? (Hint: Character is developed through repeated behavior.)

### **Taking it Home**

8) Read Luke 16:10-15. Why is it that the default position of our heart is to focus on worldly riches rather than heavenly riches? How can we apply wisdom in order to better steward our earthly finances and serve God in the process?

9) It's obvious that we are living in uncertain economic times. So there's a lot of fear and anxiety going around. (Be careful, it's contagious!) But this might just offer us a glorious opportunity to intentionally choose to look for our peace and security elsewhere. Given the totality of what we looked at together through this study, how does a person really find peace and security in this lifetime?

### **Praying Together**

Ask the Lord to help each of you become confident, cheerful stewards of the resources He allows to flow through your lives. Ask Him to help you truly pursue storing up secure treasures in heaven. And remember to pray for any other needs as they are presented.