

The Absent father and the God who cares— Matthew 6:19-34 October 9, 2022

Money is more than we think it is. And its power over us is greater than we realise.

How can we break free from the hold it has and the anxiety it brings?

As we begin the **God | Money** series, Lewis Roderick takes us to Matthew 6 and shows us the Father who cares and will provide for his people.

For personal reflection/community discussion

Read – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

Examine – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

Apply - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- When we're anxious about money, some will become *savers*, others will become *spenders*. Which are you? What are you feeling in these moments?
- Lewis spoke of Mammon as force, even a demonic power, that can master us and shrivel our humanity. Have you ever experienced money's influence in this way? In what way does money control you and make you less the person Christ desires you to be?
- In 1 Timothy 6: 17-19, the Apostle Paul speaks challengingly of how the
 wrong use of money can hinder us even 'truly living'. After hearing this
 message, speak aloud (or write down if you're alone) the way the Lord would
 want you to respond and 'seek first the Kingdom' with the money he has
 provided. Try to be as specific as possible and start living it out today.