



**GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE – CHAIN BREAKER - Wk 3**

**ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK:** (15 minutes)

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

**SHORT OPENING PRAYER FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER:** (2 minutes)

**SCRIPTURE and DISCUSSION:** (50 minutes) This week’s discussion has a lot of Scripture references! Have everyone get out their Bibles and take turns looking up and reading passages.

Dan Jarrell presented “5 fundamental issues” where we either “live in financial freedom and peace” or we “live under financial stress or anxiety.” Next to each of issues, circle either “freedom” or “stress”:

- |   |         |        |
|---|---------|--------|
| 1. Motivation – <i>do thoughts of God or thoughts of money occupy the larger percentage of my attention and/or affection?</i> | Freedom | Stress |
| 2. Ownership – <i>do I believe that God owns “my” resources and that I am a steward?</i>                                      | Freedom | Stress |
| 3. Margin – <i>am I positioned to act on my beliefs about financial stewardship?</i>  | Freedom | Stress |
| 4. Generosity – <i>is this a personality trait or a way I reflect the character of my Creator?</i>                            | Freedom | Stress |
| 5. Contentment – <i>how important is money to my contentment?</i>   | Freedom | Stress |

In light of everyone’s answers, read the Scriptures, discussing as many of these as you have time for. If discussion goes in depth, focus on the areas that cause the most stress.

- Motivation – *Matthew 6:19-34, 2 Corinthians 9:10-12*
- Ownership – *Psalms 24:1-2, Psalm 8:3-8*
- Margin – *Dan suggested choices we might consider to increase “margin” in our finances:*
  - practice saving - *Prov 21:20, Prov 22:3*
  - get out of debt and stay out - *Prov 22:7, Rom 6:16, 2 Peter 2:18-19*
  - simplify our lives - *1 Timothy 6:8, Prov 12:9*
  - be VERY CAREFUL “leveraging” ourselves and our resources - *we do not teach nor believe that borrowing money is always a sin, but it can be if entered into without prayer and counsel; read your Bible in context, pray for wisdom, discuss with spiritual partners!*
  - avoid “impulse” buying and spending - *Prov 24:3-7*
- Generosity – *2 Corinthians 9:6-8, Ecclesiastes 11:1-4, Prov 11:25, Prov 22:9*
- Contentment – *Hebrews 13:5, Philippians 4:11-13, 1 John 2:15-17*

**SURRENDER:** (10 minutes) Determine one change you believe you can begin to make this week to decrease your financial stress or to increase the freedom you experience. Share that idea with your group and ask them to pray for your success in making that change.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** (10 minutes ) Spend time praying for and encouraging one another.