

**Key Scripture**

*<sup>4</sup> When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. <sup>5</sup> It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. <sup>6</sup> Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? <sup>7</sup> For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vanity; but God is the one you must fear. <sup>8</sup> If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. <sup>9</sup> But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields. <sup>10</sup> He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. <sup>11</sup> When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? <sup>12</sup> Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep. <sup>13</sup> There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, <sup>14</sup> and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. <sup>15</sup> As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. <sup>16</sup> This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? <sup>17</sup> Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger. <sup>18</sup> Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. <sup>19</sup> Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. <sup>20</sup> For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart – Ecclesiastes 5:4-20 (ESV)*

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**Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)**

- Are you an Android or a iPhone type of person? Do you get excited when they come out with the latest versions or is it annoying because now your new phone is outdated again?
- What luxuries in life do you enjoy the most?

**Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)**

- Read Ecclesiastes 5:4-20. Why is wealth meaningless to the writer? Why did some during the pandemic come to the same conclusions?
- Read Ecclesiastes 5:4-20. What blessings does God give us while we are here on this earth? Are they to be enjoyed?
- Read 1 Timothy 6:8. What is the balance between wanting more and enjoying what has been given to you?

**Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)**

- Most of us work hard for what we have but when does your work get in the way of enjoying what you have?
- Has there ever been a time you didn’t think you would have enough to pay that bill or make it through the year but then God provided? How did he do so?
- Why is it important we give back a portion to His Church that has been given to us? How do you like to honor God with you money?
- When it comes to money: do you believe your lifestyle demonstrates that we are here on this earth on a temporary assignment?

**Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)**

- Take some time this week to be generous with your money, give a bigger tip than normal, increase your offering, buy lunch for a friend.
- Live in thankfulness of what has been given to you by simply enjoying it this week, take some time off and have a fun day!

**Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)**

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

**Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)**

1. What’s a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.