



## Money

### Getting Started

- *Larger LIFEGroups may consider splitting into same gender groups in order to facilitate more meaningful discussion.*
- *Groups will not have enough time to discuss every question. Leaders are encouraged to skip questions and make substitutions based on what's best for their group.*

### Warm Ups (15 Min)

- Everyone go around and share a “High” from the week and a “Low” from the week.
- If I had known then, what I know now: When it comes to money and growing up, what would you have done differently?

### Community Note (1 Min)

- In the midst of a marriage series, some people might ask: “Why should singles care?”
  - a. Studies show that the vast majority of people eventually get married - and a series like this can help prepare people for a future relationship.
  - b. Our health as the body of Christ depends on all people pouring into one another - and leaning into a study on marriage will no doubt give you valuable insight that you can use to support the married couples around you.
  - c. This series contains great info that can be applied beyond the marriage relationship.
- For a great article on leaning into your singleness, visit <https://www.emotionallyhealthy.org/lead-out-of-your-singleness/>

### Scripture Study (30 Min)

- “Fast Facts: 16 out of 38 of Jesus’ parables deal with money and possessions. Nearly 25% of Jesus’ words in the New Testament deal with biblical stewardship. 1 out of 10 verses in the

Gospels deal with money. There are more than 2,000 scriptures on tithing money, and possessions in the Bible.” <https://get.tithe.ly/blog/bible-verses-about-money>

- “Money is frequently discussed in the Bible because there’s a direct correlation between the way we handle our money and our faith. When it comes to money, we will either worship wealth or worship with our wealth.” How do these fast facts impact you?

## Money and Marriage

- Ashley LeBaron, a doctoral student in the Norton School and Consumer Sciences, examined how couples make financial decisions and how those decisions affect the quality and stability of their relationship.
  - "Couples who manage their money together, have joint bank accounts and have low financial conflict, those partners are more likely to feel empowered in the relationship. They're more likely to feel like they have a say, an influence, in their relationship and that empowerment piece is actually what's influencing the relationship outcomes," she says.
  - In other words, being fully heard and understood regarding household finances is connected to having positive feelings about the marriage overall and a desire to maintain the relationship in the long term.
  - Both spouses bring to their union strengths and weaknesses. Molding these individual characteristics into a workable relationship is a matter of understanding the order of God and the gift of grace. Financial decisions that impact the success of the family are a shared responsibility. Whatever the source of God’s provisions, whether the result of the husband’s employment or the wife’s employment or both, the assets accumulated are the responsibility of both partners together as a team. The important principle in regard to financial decisions is to “do all to the glory of God”
- 1 Corinthians 10:31 - So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.
- Romans 14:8 - If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.
- Jesus said: “You cannot worship God and money” (Matthew 6:24). How does this verse impact you?
- Prov. 21:20; 6:6-8 says: “Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man's dwelling, but a foolish man devours it.” “Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.” What wisdom can you gain from these verses with regards to saving and consumer debt?
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 says: “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” What does this passage impact your view of giving?
- Here is a list of 9 truths about Money. Which ones catch your attention and why?

- God owns everything
- Money is a tool
- Worship with your money
- Get that money
- Fight for contentment
- Kill greed in your heart
- Be mindful of debt
- Manage your finances
- Mo' money, mo' problems
- How to Start Talking with your Spouse about Money
  - <https://www.mymoneycoach.ca/blog/how-to-start-talking-with-your-spouse-about-money.html>
- Taking your Financial Education a Step Further: <https://www.daveramsey.com/fpu>

## Group Prayer (15 Min)

## Trios (20 Min)

*Same gender groups of three. If numbers are uneven, go to groups of two.*

- **Spiritual Velocity:**
  - How did you see God at work in your life this week?
  - What has God been teaching you in His Word as you've encountered it in this week's Life Journal readings, Sunday message, or LIFEGroup study?
  - What's an area of your life in which you know you need to repent or grow? Is there an area of your life in which you'd like a friend to check in on you periodically?
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission:**
  - What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians? How's your 3-2-1 challenge going? Share about connections you're building and spiritual conversations you're having with non-believing neighbors and friends.
  - List the names of non-Christians in your life that you can pray for:  
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  - What good can we do around here? (Missional party? Service project?)
  - How can we help each other, our neighbors, and our city in prayer?