



Learner's Guide

Each week in this study has 5 main points. Each point is supported by Scripture, explored with questions, and sealed through prayer prompts. This is a SIGNIFICANT amount of content. Our encouragement to you is to review the Scripture and the questions thoroughly in preparation for the group meeting. Also provided in the document are prayer prompts to accompany your study.

You, the learner, will grow in contentment and generosity if you commit yourself to prayerful study of this content and engage eagerly with your small group. Enjoy!

Week 1 - God owns everything and he provides generously. I'm called to be his money manager.

1. Whose stuff is it anyway?

***Scripture to read:**

Psalm 24:1-2

Haggai 2:8

***Questions to answer:**

- As a default, do you think of money and possessions as yours or God's?
- If God is the owner, what is the logical attitude concerning our use of money and possessions?

2. Recognizing the source of my ability to create wealth.

***Scripture to read:**

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

***Question to answer:**

- How do you respond to the proposition that God has provided you with the ability to create wealth? What objections might someone have to this proposition?

3. Recognizing the promise and reality of God's provision.

***Scripture to read**

Matthew 6:26, 30

Philippians 4:19-20

***Questions to answer:**

- Has God ever failed to provide for your needs?
- Do you currently have more than you need? If so, what do you plan to do with the surplus?

4. Cultivating a heart of contentment

***Scripture to read**

Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:19-20

***Questions to answer:**

- Are you content with the money and possessions that you have? If so, why? If not, how much more money and stuff will it take to satisfy you?
- Do you find yourself worrying about money and possessions more frequently than you celebrating the goodness of God? If so, what's that about?

5. How I benefit from managing God's money.

***Scripture to read**

Matthew 25:14-30 – Use your own Bible to read this story from Jesus.

***Questions to answer:**

- Whose talents (monetary units) were the servants charged with investing?
- What benefits accrued to those who obeyed the master's command to invest?
- What happened to the servant who refused the command to invest? What do you make of the master's blunt response to this servant?
- What applications can you draw from Jesus' story about faithful financial responsibility?

***Prayer prompts from Week 1:**

- "Lord, please change my heart to see clearly that you are the owner of all things, and that I own nothing. Amen."
- "Lord, rescue me from the 'pride of ownership'. I am merely the creature who receives, you are the Creator who provides! Amen."
- "Lord, thank you for providing for my needs, always. Please remind me to use surplus for your Kingdom. Amen."
- "Lord, you are my contentment. Please turn my heart back to you when I gravitate toward the false gods of money and possessions. Amen."
- "Lord, remind me often that you are the owner and I am the manager. Remind me often that I am to invest your money in things that you are passionate about. Amen."