Money Talks

Week 2 Discussion Guide

Icebreaker

What's your biggest financial weakness? Coffee, eating out, Amazon, hobbies, clothes, or something else?

Read

Take turns reading Matthew 6:19-25. (Optional: Have your group read the passage in two different versions. Then have the group retell the passage in their own words.)

Discuss

Jesus does not say money is evil. He says wherever your money goes, your heart follows. Think of it like a magnet. The direction of our spending reveals the direction of our devotion. This is not meant to shame us but to help us see ourselves clearly.

- **Before today, how often did you think of your spending as a spiritual issue rather than just a practical one?**
- **Jesus says in v. 21, "Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." Can you think of a purchase or financial commitment you have made that genuinely pulled your heart in a good direction? What about one that pulled it in the wrong direction?**

Jesus uses the image of the eye as a lens for how we see the world. An eye that is fixed on God, His kingdom, and His purposes sees the world with more pure motives. An unhealthy eye is clouded by greed, comparison and divided loyalty. Then He lands on. ahard truth in v. 24: you simply cannot serve both God and money.

- **Jesus does not say it is difficult to serve two masters. He says it is IMPOSSIBLE. Thinking back on your own life, where have you seen the truth of this play out? What happened when you tried to keep God in one corner and money in another?**
- **Where do you feel the most tension between trusting God and staying in control of your finances?**
- **The wallet is the last thing we want to surrender to God. Why do you think money feels so personal and difficult to release?**

Jesus ends the passage with a promise. When we stop serving money and start trusting God, worry begins to lose its grip. That does not mean life becomes easy or that budgets balance themselves. It means we are no longer carrying it alone.

- **On a scale of 1 to 10, how much does money-related anxiety affect your daily life? What do you think is underneath that?**
- **Has there been a moment in your life when you chose to be financially generous in a way that stretched you? What happened to your heart as a result?**

Application

End your time with a personal challenege and encourage each person to do the following:

- **<u>This Week:</u> Write down every dollar you spend for seven days. Do not filter anything. Just observe your spending.**
- **<u>This Month:</u> Sit down and build a simple budget. Do not forget that you have the free resource of Ramsey+**
- **<u>This Season:</u> Identify and make a concrete plan to give generously.**

Prayer

Spend time in prayer asking God to reveal areas of your finances that you have not surrendered to Him and for the faith to loosen your grip. Trusting that if He dresses the Lillies of the field and feeds the birds of the sky then how much more will He provide for you.