



IN GOD WE TRUST

WEEK 2 - THE PRACTICES OF TRUST

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

While we are to trust God to provide for our needs, we honor God by having a plan for the money he entrusts to us.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:21, Luke 14:28

ICEBREAKER

What is the first thing you remember buying with your own money? How did it make you feel when you bought it?

OPENING THOUGHT

Jesus talks a lot about money and tells us to examine where our treasure is to determine what we value the most. He also asks us to consider who and what are we investing in – ourselves, material possessions, or in purposes. Do those purposes honor God? What is our plan for the treasure God has given to us?

BIBLE DISCUSSION

1. Read Matthew 6:19-21. What do you notice? What is the warning in this passage?
2. Read Luke 14:25-34. What stands out most to you? Where do you feel challenged?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-9. What is God's message to us about giving here?

LIFE APPLICATION

4. How often do you assess your financial health? How often do you think you should?
5. In what ways does debt enslave us?
6. What would be the hardest part of a "Give, Save, Live" plan for you and your family? Why God promises to provide what we need. Do you have a story in which God provided in a time of need? Share with the group.

CHALLENGE

If you spend time with toddlers, you realize quickly that "mine" is one of their most frequently used words. Sometimes even as an adult, we can carry that attitude about our money and material possessions though everything we have comes from God. While it is not ours, it is our responsibility to be good stewards of what is given to us. This week have a plan for your giving, saving, and living and see if approaching your finances with a Christ-centered purpose makes it easier to adhere to the plan.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

communitychristian.org/ingodwetrustresources/



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ICE BREAKER

The question is meant to start a discussion about spending and saving.

OPENING THOUGHT

Discussing money and finances can be a delicate matter, so try to start slowly by talking about Jesus' hope that we'll have a biblical attitude. Explore what that looks like by taking stock first of where we invest and how.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

The discussion of money, finances, and debt can be a very stressful topic for some. Focus on Jesus' intent in these passages. He is giving us the lesson to help us keep perspective and to be given reassurance that he will provide for our needs.

LIFE APPLICATION

These questions are designed to get people thinking about where they stand when it comes to their finances. Individual experience with money may vary greatly, but the constant is God's promise of providing. Freedom from debt and the stress of many financial problems can be solved with a sound plan and faith in his promises.

Help the group focus on keeping the discussion about a Biblical plan for our financial well being and not on the amount of money we may have. With a plan centered around "Give, Save, and Live" we can honor God no matter the amount he has entrusted to us.

CHALLENGE

Highlight the upcoming events and opportunities through the church to help individuals make a plan. Have them download the COMMUNITY App for easy access to that information.

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