

ROOTED WEEK 8: HOW DOES GOD VIEW MONEY?

Welcome to Rooted Week 8! It's only two weeks to the celebration dinner! This week's topic looks at the way we view, handle and use money and how that relates to our faith, stewardship, and generosity.

REMINDERS

- Check to make sure everyone will have shared their stories by end of week 9.
- You should be deciding on your next steps after Rooted.
- Baptism is coming up. Please invite those in your group to the Baptism training. Details are available online.

RESOURCES

- Rooted Before/After cards
- Celebration dinner potluck sign-up

ABOUT WEEK 8

This week's reading is bound to provoke great discussions as we explore questions like: What exactly is the place of money in our lives? Do you control your money, or does it control you? Do you possess it, or does it possess you? Will we ever get to a point where, like the Apostle Paul, each of us can say with confidence that: *"...I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength."* (Philippians 4:12-13.) Ultimately, we all need to answer the question of where our trust is: In God or in Money? Our answer to this question will determine everything else we do.

As we explore God's perspective on money, expect your group's views and philosophies about money to be challenged. The concept of money not actually being ours is countercultural. For some, recognizing that all money belongs to God and we are stewards and managers will be a big shift. The overarching theme of this chapter is that when our focus is on ourselves rather than on God, the way we handle money will reflect that. Our use of money says something about the condition of our hearts. Money is not bad in and of itself. It can be a great tool to accomplish God's purposes. Hoarding it or wasting it undermines its potential for good.

This week ask for stories. Be intentional with follow up questions and let the group engage. When has financial sacrifice led to abundant blessings in your life? When questions arise about money, open it up to the group and point back to the Biblical principles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **This week's session** will start with a short video. We will set up the video in your rooms before you start. The video is about 10 minutes.
- Hand out the **Before/After testimony** card. Let people know that they will be sharing their testimonies on week 9
- **Prophetic Prayers** is coming up in week 10! This is when we get to pray prophetically over our participants, calling them out to their purpose as the Holy Spirit leads. Please review each person's story and pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance as you prepare. We will discuss this more when we meet.
- **Potluck Celebration Dinner** will be held **Friday, March 27th , from 6-8pm** in the Commons. Each group should bring 3 main dishes, 3 sides, and 3 desserts. Spouses who have not attended Rooted are invited to attend.
- **The Next Steps** conversation should be happening now. If your group is planning on becoming a Life Group, you should identify who the leaders will be (if you don't plan on leading the life group). The **New Life Group Leader Training** is scheduled for **Sunday, April 12th at 10 am.**