

Foundations

Week Six: Money

Connect Group Guide - 10.26.25

Opening Prayer

Icebreaker

Question: What's one financial lesson (good or bad) you learned from your parents or family growing up?

Message Recap

Pastor Mike challenged us to think differently about money—not just the 10% we give, but the 90% we manage. He addressed why money is such a sensitive topic in the church and taught us how to approach God about finances with the right heart.

Key Takeaways

- **Money is a spiritual issue** - Giving, budgeting, and debt are discipleship matters, not just financial decisions
- **Money touches what matters most** - While money isn't the most important thing, it affects the things that are (family, home, provision)
- **There's a biblical way to ask God for wealth** - The Prayer of Jabez shows us how
- **Money has five God-given purposes** - To give to the kingdom, care for families, carry out our calling, help others, and enjoy life
- **The greatest treasure is Jesus** - Before we worry about wealth, we must know the King of Kings

Discussion Questions

Section 1: Money as a Nerve

1. **Pastor Mike said money is one of the church's most sensitive “nerves.”**
 - Why do you think Christians get uncomfortable when money is discussed in church?
2. **Have you ever felt convicted rather than just frustrated when hearing about giving? What was that experience like?**
3. **Read James 4:3.**
 - How can we tell if our financial prayers have wrong motives?

Section 2: How to Ask God for Wealth

4. Review the four steps to asking God for more money:

1. **Check your motives**
2. **Tell God how you will honor Him**
3. **Don't be bashful about asking**
4. **Be faithful with what you already have**

- Which of these steps is hardest for you personally? Why?

5. Read 1 Chronicles 4:9-10 (The Prayer of Jabez).

- What stands out to you about how Jabez approached God?
- How is this different from how we typically pray about money?

6. Pastor Mike said, "If you're not tithing over here [with little], you're not going to tithe over here [with much]."

- Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Section 3: The Five Purposes of Wealth

7. The five purposes of wealth are:

1. **Give to the kingdom**
2. **Take care of your families**
3. **Carry out your calling**
4. **Help others**
5. **Enjoy life**

- Which purpose resonates most with you?
- Which one challenges you most?

8. Read 1 Timothy 5:8.

- How do we balance giving generously to the kingdom while also providing well for our families?

9. Pastor said some people are blessed with more wealth because "their calling requires it."

- How does this perspective change the way you view others' financial blessings?

10. The last purpose was "to enjoy."

- Why do you think Christians sometimes feel guilty about enjoying the blessings God gives them?

Section 4: The Greatest Treasure

- 1. Pastor ended by reminding us that Jesus is our greatest treasure.**
 - How does keeping Jesus first change our relationship with money?
- 2. Read Matthew 6:19-21.**
 - Where is your treasure?
 - How can you tell?
- 3. Is there anyone in the group who needs to surrender their finances to God for the first time? Or re-surrender an area where they've been holding back?**

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

Choose ONE of the following to implement this week:

Option 1: The Jabez Prayer

- Pray the Prayer of Jabez daily (1 Chronicles 4:9-10)
- Before praying, write down: your motives, how you'll honor God, and what faithfulness looks like with what you currently have

Option 2: Financial Inventory

- Take an honest look at your finances
- Ask yourself: "Am I being faithful with what I have?"
- Identify one area where you can be a better steward

Option 3: Kingdom Giving Assessment

- If you don't currently tithe, pray about taking a step of faith
- If you do tithe, ask God if He's calling you to give beyond the tithe to a specific need or ministry

Option 4: Family Provision Plan

- Review how you're providing for your family (1 Timothy 5:8)
- Make sure your family knows they're a priority, not just financially but with your time and presence

Option 5: Generosity Act

- Find one person or family to bless financially this week
- Give without expecting anything in return
- Notice how you feel afterward (refreshed, as Proverbs 11:25 promises)

Accountability Question

- Who will you share your chosen action step with this week for accountability?

Prayer Requests & Closing