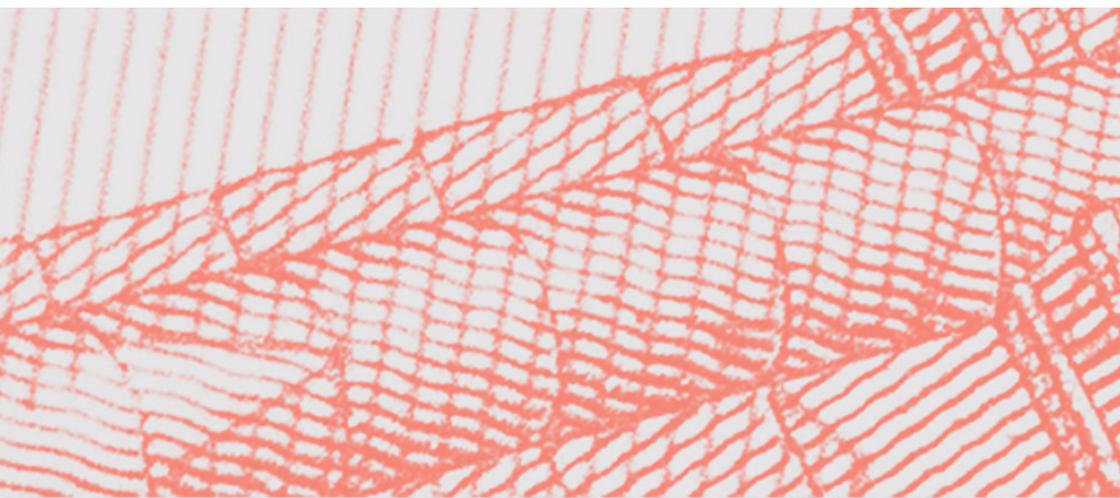




MIND YOUR MONEY



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This study guide and electronic versions of the videos for this series and the many others produced by Equipppers Church can be accessed at www.equippperschurch.com/egroups

HOST'S GUIDE

This study guide is here to help you lead a fun and transformative eGroup study over the next few weeks that will see each person progress and grow. Use this guide, along with the DVDs and weekly Study Guides, for a life-changing, interactive experience.

BEFORE YOU MEET:

- Ask God to prepare the hearts and minds of the people in your eGroup. Ask Him to show each of you how to apply what you learn to your own heart to see growth and to move forward.
- Preview the DVD and read through the study guide for that week. Think about what you might answer for each question. Make notes in your study guide if you want to.

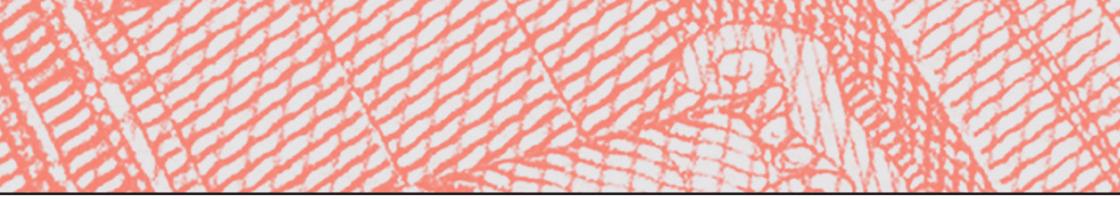
SETTING UP:

- Take time before everyone arrives to prepare some snacks to share with everyone, set up the room you will use, check that there are enough seats, and try to create a relaxed and comfortable environment to meet in. You might want to play music quietly to create a relaxed atmosphere when everyone arrives, or move the furniture in your living room to make the space inviting.
- Have a Bible handy for verses that you might want to look up during discussion.

HOW TO HOST YOUR GATHERING AND USE YOUR STUDY GUIDE:

ENGAGE: Welcome each person as they arrive. Spend time chatting, getting to know one another, or just sharing about the week. Your relationships as a group are as important as the time you spend watching the DVD or in discussion. A relaxed and friendly environment is an easy place to learn and hear from God.

RECAP: After the first session you may wish to spend a bit of time each week recapping how your last seven days has been, inviting members to share any opportunities they had throughout the week to apply what they learned and how their individual activation went.



KEY THOUGHT: This is the main takeaway for the week. You don't have to read it out but can use it as a guide to frame your discussion.

WATCH: After you have spent some time engaging with each other watch the DVD for the week.

DISCUSS: Read out each question in the study guide, allowing time for everyone to share their thoughts or experiences if they desire.

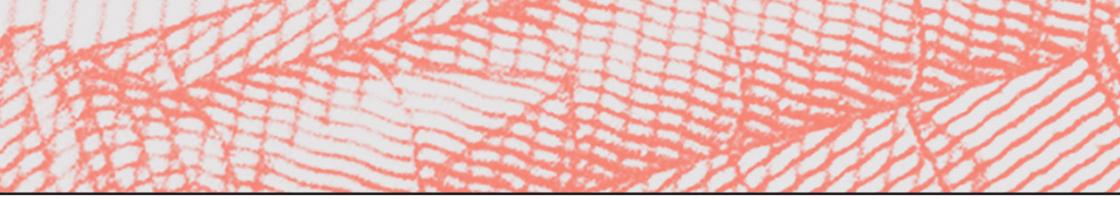
When a question arises, ask the group for their input, and resist the urge to answer it yourself straight away. Your primary role is to create an environment where people feel comfortable to be themselves and participate, not to provide all the answers to all of their questions. Don't be afraid of silence as participants think of their response to the questions.

Remember, the goal is not necessarily to 'get through' all of the questions. The main priority is for each person to learn and engage in dynamic discussion.

PRAY: Ask the group to pray for each other from week to week, especially about key issues that arise during your discussion time. This is how you begin to build authentic relationship, and encourage spiritual growth within the group.

ACTIVATE: As a group, read out and talk about the action in the study guide for that week. Decide together to commit to doing this action during the week to help you each grow and engage with God individually.





SUGGESTED TIME FRAMES FOR YOUR GATHERING:

ENGAGE: 15 minutes

RECAP: 10 minutes

WATCH: 10 minutes

DISCUSS: 30 minutes

PRAY: 5-10 minutes

ACTIVATE: 5 minutes

(Please note that these are just suggested times, you may wish to take longer in certain areas. However, we do recommend keeping your gathering to a maximum of one and a half hours in consideration of others' time)

KEYS TO A DYNAMIC EGROUP

RELATIONSHIPS: Meaningful, encouraging relationships are the foundation of a dynamic eGroup. Discussion and prayer are important elements of a gathering, but the depth of each part is often dependent upon the depth of the relationships between members.

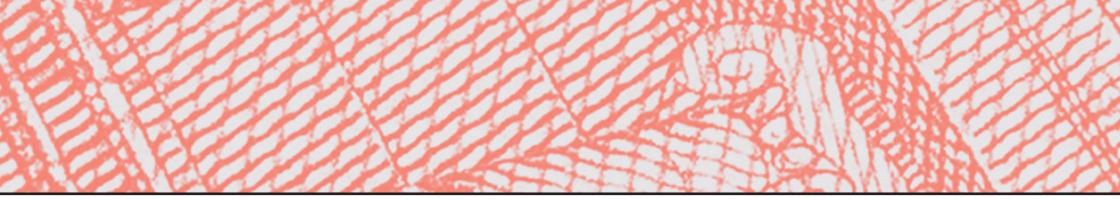
AVAILABILITY: Building a sense of community within your group requires members to prioritise their relationships with one another. This means being available to listen, care for one another, and meet each other's needs.

MUTUAL RESPECT: Mutual respect is shown when members value others' opinions (even when they disagree) and are careful to never belittle or embarrass others in the group (including their spouses, who may or may not be present).

OPENNESS: A healthy group environment encourages sincerity and transparency. Members treat each other with grace in areas of weakness, allowing each other room to grow.

CONFIDENTIALITY: To develop authenticity and a sense of safety within the group, each member must be able to trust that things discussed within the group will not be shared outside the group.



A decorative header with a red mesh pattern. In the center, there is a faint, stylized illustration of a person's face, possibly a religious figure, rendered in a light red color that blends with the mesh.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY: Group members will share the responsibility of gatherings by using their God-given abilities to serve at each meeting. Some may greet, some may prepare food, some may pray, etc. Ideally, each person should be available to care for one another as needed.

SENSITIVITY: Dynamic eGroups are born when the leader consistently seeks and is responsive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, following His leading throughout the meeting as opposed to sticking to the “agenda”. This is especially important during the discussion and prayer time.

FUN!

Dynamic gatherings take the time to have fun! Create an atmosphere for fun, and be willing to laugh at yourself every now and then!



STEWARDSHIP

CONNECT: Spend time connecting with each other

KEY THOUGHT: To be fruitful we need to look after what God has given us and do well with it.

WATCH: Watch 'Session One' of the video.

Key Verse: Genesis 1:28

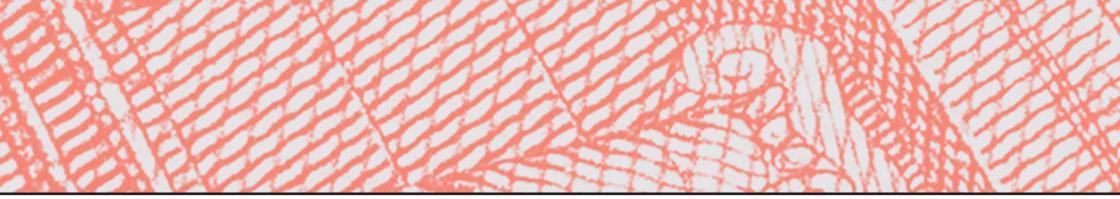
"Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it."

OPEN

Question 1: Did anything particularly stand out from the video?

Question 2: What do you know about the concept of stewardship?

Question 3: Stu talked about the importance of stewarding well our time, talent and treasure. **How well do you steward these three areas?**



STUDY

Read 2 Chronicles 16:9

“For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.”

Question 4: What does this verse say about the concept of giving God somewhere to ‘land’ His blessing?

Question 5: Is your life the kind of life where God would want to ‘land’ His blessing upon? If not, how can you take steps of faith to position you for this?

COMMIT

Question 6: Faith is about doing, it needs to be outworked. How do you currently “work a plan” in your life? Is there any room for improvement?

Pray: Pray that God would help you to put your faith into action and “work a plan” to give God somewhere to ‘land’ His blessing.

Practical: Go away this week and think of a financial, personal, or spiritual goal to share with the group next week.



GROWING YOUR CAPACITY

CONNECT: Spend time connecting with each other

KEY THOUGHT: Learn to be faithful with the little and allow God to increase it over time.

WATCH: Watch 'Session Two' of the video.

Key Verse: Luke 16:10

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

OPEN

Question 1: Did anything particularly stand out from the video?

Question 2: What is your understanding of capacity? Discuss the different areas it can relate to.

Question 3: Stu talked about his capacity in business growing from a small start. What areas in your world have you seen an increase in capacity? Is your capacity for giving growing at the same time?

Question 4: They talked in the video about the importance of managing the 90% well. Do you find it easier to give the 10% to God or to manage the 90% faithfully?



STUDY

Read Deuteronomy 28:1-14.

“If you fully obey the Lord your God you will be blessed in the city and field...The Lord will make you the head, not the tail.”

Question 5: This scripture says that if we obey Him, God will bless us. **Do you think you are worthy enough to be blessed by God? Why does God want to bless us?**

Question 6: What do you think it means when it says “fully obey the Lord”? Are there any ways you could be more obedient?

COMMIT

Question 7: It’s important to learn not to live beyond our means and to hold things with open hands. **Is there something in your possession that you wouldn’t be willing to give away?**

Pray: Pray that God will help you to be “faithful with a little” so He can trust you with much. If you feel that money has gripped your heart, pray that God would help you find freedom.

Practical: Go away this week and think of ways that you can be more faithful and generous each day, share with the group next week.





WEEK THREE:

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MONEY?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MONEY?

CONNECT: Spend time connecting with each other

KEY THOUGHT: We reap what we sow, so it is important that we use our money wisely.

WATCH: Watch 'Session Three' of the video.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

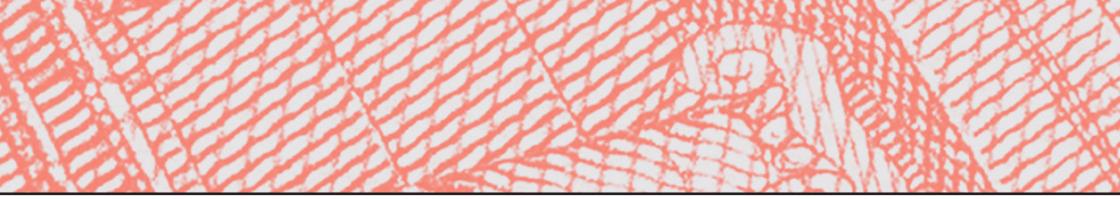
OPEN

Question 1: Did anything particularly stand out from the video?

Question 2: The bible teaches us that money is neutral and reflects the heart of the holder. It can get stuck in our pockets, or we can be more willing to pass it on. Think about your own spending, what does it say about your heart?

Question 3: Stu explained how offerings are above and beyond the tithe, and that giving an offering has the power to break something open. Have you seen or experienced this? Is it something you might need to try in your own life?





STUDY

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously”

Question 4: This verse says we will reap where we sow, think about how you currently spend your money. **What will you reap as a result of this?**

Question 5: Would you call yourself a cheerful giver, or do you give out of compulsion?

COMMIT

Question 6: Proverbs 3:9 says, “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;”. **Why do you think God wants us to give to him first rather than offer Him our leftovers?**

Question 7: Tithes and offering should be grounded in faith, you can’t serve both God and money. **Why do you think it is important to give an offering over and above your tithe?**

Pray: Pray that God will help you to be faithful with the money you have so that you are not giving under compulsion but with the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Practical: Go away this week and think about how you are spending your money. Consider making a budget if you haven’t before.



OUR MONEY MINDSET

CONNECT: Spend time connecting with each other

KEY THOUGHT: Our view of money determines our spending and fruitfulness so we need to allow God to renew our mindset.

WATCH: Watch 'Session Four' of the video.

Key Verse: Romans 12:2

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

OPEN

Question 1: Did anything particularly stand out from the video?

Question 2: Stu and Margot talked about how our "money mindset" is largely set by our upbringing. **How was money viewed and used in your family of origin?**

Question 3: How do you think your view of money has been affected by your upbringing?

STUDY

2 Thessalonians 3:10

"For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: 'The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.'"



Colossians 3:23

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters”

Question 4: What do you think the verse in 2 Thessalonians is talking about? How can it be applied to our everyday lives?

Question 5: How strong is your work ethic? Are there areas in your life that you work harder in than others, or where you don’t always work with integrity? (For example, working harder when your boss is looking).

COMMIT

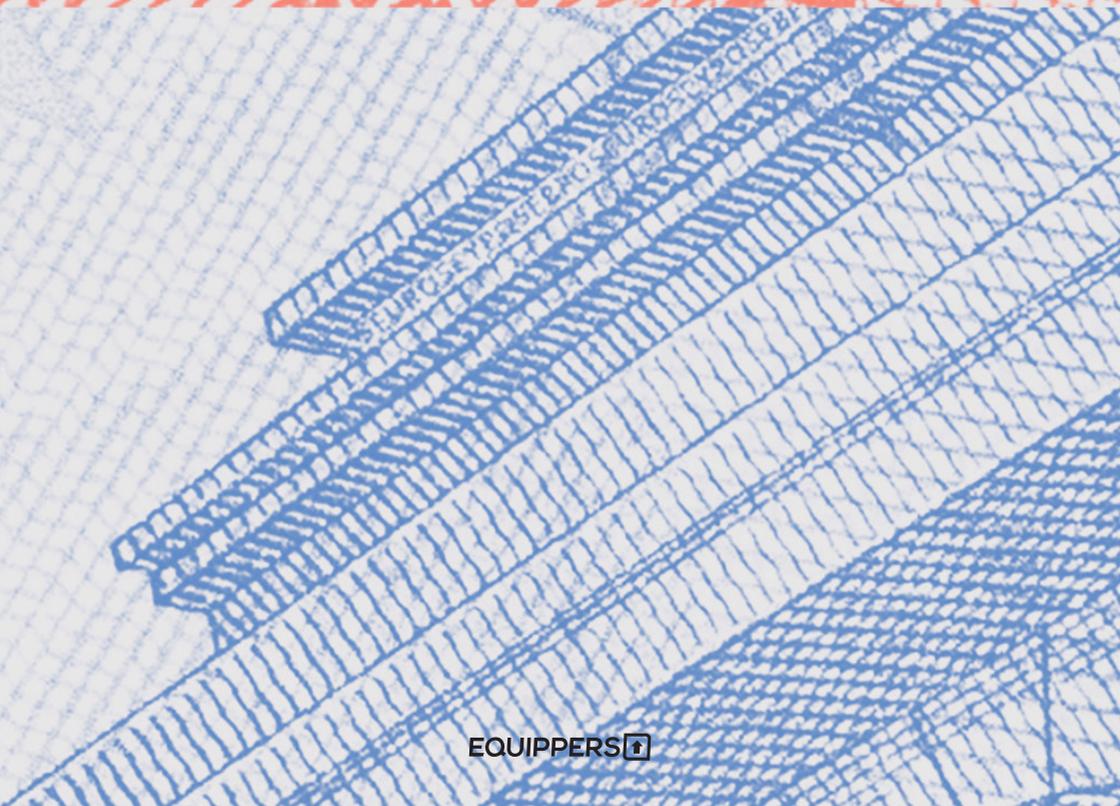
Question 6: Margot spoke on the impact of having a “poverty mentality” in adulthood. **Think about how you treat money, does it ever just slip through your fingers (overspending)? Or do you find it hard to let go of what you have (stinginess)?**

Pray: If anyone in the group identifies with the impacts of having a poverty mindset, pray that this would be broken and that God would give them a new way of thinking.

Practical: A great way to grow is to have people journey with you. Find people you can be around that will inspire you in this area, pick their brains about how they work, and copy their habits.

Christians Against Poverty: Christians Against Poverty is a charity that works with churches to provide help managing money. Check out <http://www.capnz.org> to find out where your nearest CAP money course is.





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