

Growth Group Preparation Questions

For the week of May 22, 2022
Heart, Money, and Blessings Part 1

Big Idea: You can know your heart by how you spend your money.

Goal: To provoke people to examine how they spend their money.

Prepare

This week we're diving into Scripture asking God to help us examine what our spending says about our hearts. The personal preparation time and discussion are meant to help us flesh out what we've learned through the sermon and apply it more thoroughly in our lives together.

Watch Pastor Shawn's sermon, *Heart, Money, and Blessings Part 1*, noting anything memorable and impactful as you go.

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-6, Matthew 22:37-40; 6:21, 24, 1 John 3:17

Pray: Father, by Your Holy Spirit, open our hearts to see what our spending reveals about our true loves.

Connect

Tell your growth group about the best money you ever spent and the worst. Bonus if they're the same answer.

Discussion Take some time to personally reflect on these questions after viewing the sermon and before your G2. It could make for a great morning devotional time! You can type and save your responses in the FBC app privately if you would like.

1. **Read Matthew 12:34 and 15:18.** Based on your words, what do you love?
 - a. **Read Matthew 5 and 18:35.** Based on your actions, what do you love?
 - b. **Read Matthew 6:21, 24, 1 John 3:17.** Based on your use and view of money, what do you love?
2. Why do you obey God?
 - a. What does this suggest is the reason for your disobedience?
 - b. What excuses are you prone to make for your disobedience?
3. What's your experience with churches teaching about money so far? How, if at all, was Sunday's sermon different?
 - a. Where do comments about money cross a line?

4. Describe your relationship to money right now. Are you worried, at peace, stressed, overly connected, thankful, no relationship?

5. How have you/are you judging others based on their spending without knowing their real motives?
 - a. Brainstorm some ways their spending could reveal a heart which loves God.

 - b. **Read Matthew 6:24.** What would it look like for you to handle money, yet serve only God?

6. How do you feel about yourself after talking about giving your heart? Remind yourself and your group out loud of this truth from Romans 8:1 *"There is no condemnation in Christ Jesus."*

Closing Prayer This prayer section is a guide to help process with God what you've learned about Him and yourself through the sermon, personal preparation time, and discussion, seeking the Holy Spirit's power in applying it in your life. Sharing these responses in your G2 helps others gain insight into God and themselves while also encouraging toward growth.

Admire: What have you learned about God through this sermon, discussion, and Scripture? Praise Him for it. **Possible response:** God we praise You because You are unlike other Gods because You are relational.

Admit: What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you as areas where you are falling short? Confess it to God. **Possible response:** God, we confess when we honestly look at our spending it shows misplaced priorities.

Aspire: What is a specific change you want to see in your life or action you and/or your G2 could take based in this time of interaction? **Possible Response:** God help us love You so much it shows in our spending.

Ask: Keep track of requests and celebrations from others in your G2 and pray for them.