



Feb 8, 2012

T3- How much is your money worth? Matthew 6:19-24 & 1 Timothy 6:10, 17-19

Leader Notes

Objectives:

WHAT: The Bible offers both wisdom and warnings about the role money plays in our lives.

WHY: Your priorities and values are reflected in the way you use your resources, especially money.

HOW: Treat money as a temporal tool that can be used to make an eternal difference for God's kingdom.

Opening Prayer

Make sure you take time each week to open in prayer.

Let's write out a prayer together as a group. Ask God to open your hearts to what we are about to do together through this T3 study. If you're worried or afraid, ask God for peace and strength. If you're excited or eager, ask God to use your group to calm your spirit. Make it a point to record your initial prayer of preparation as you enter this new challenge together.

KICKER

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What can you buy for \$100 these days? You might view that as a lot of money, and it is- unless you have to pay for food, clothes, gasoline, etc, etc, etc.
Let's really see how far \$100 will go!

Gather several advertising inserts from home. One from Wal Mart, Target, Best Buy, etc. Divide the students into groups and let them decide how to spend \$100 at that store. The ONLY thing they have to decipher is if they are buying a "want" item, or a "need" item.

Allow each group to explain their purchases.

Follow up questions:

Were you surprised by how much or how little you could buy with \$100? Explain your answer.

Did you spend more on "want" items or on "need" items? Why did you make your particular choices?

Does this activity change your perspective on what a "lot" of money really is?

Kicker Notes:

DISCUSSION

Do you think we talk about money too much at church?
Why is important that we talk about \$ at church?
Explain your answer.

Someone read 1 Timothy 6:10

In his letter, Paul issues a warning about “the love of money.” What does that phrase mean to you?

Paul told Timothy that the love of money was the root of all kinds of evil. What are some examples of the evils that emerge and persist when we love money?

Paul also says some people wandered away from their faith because they were eager for money. How might this happen?

Do you think it’s possible to worship money?
Explain your answer.

What are some signs or evidence people might see in our lives if we have decided to serve money instead of God?

The average teenager doesn't have access to as many financial resources as the average adult. When thinking about our T3 challenge, how is this a disadvantage for you and your group?

How much of your income is actually yours to control?

How can you creatively compensate for having fewer resources?

Discussion Notes:

BIBLE

Someone read Matthew 6:19-24

What is the writer of Matthew trying to tell us here?

1. Money can become a substitute for God.

If God is able to create, provide, protect, and control, why do we sometimes feel the need to find a substitute to take God’s place in our lives?

What are some examples of ways money can create, provide, protect, and control?

2. Money reveals what’s important to us.

Let’s go back to that question from a few minutes ago: how would you spend \$100, and why would you spend it that particular way?

What do YOU think that reveals about what is important to you?

How do you define the word “worship?” Is money in that definition anywhere? Could it be?

How would your life be different if you thought of all your earthly belongings as God’s property?

Bible Notes:

CRUNCH

Ask each student to pray for God's blessing on this challenge. You don't have to offer a long or fancy prayer. Just say what's on your heart, why you want God to bless our efforts, and where you see us most needing God's help in accomplishing our mission.

Leader:

Today we are going to make a decision on our T3 challenge. Last week we took time to brainstorm a whole bunch of ideas, and we narrowed it down to our Top5 possibilities. Let's review those now.

What new ideas have you come up with since the last time we met?

How do you feel about the five ideas on our list?

Did we cut any ideas last week that we should reconsider?

Let's narrow our choices down to the Top 3.

Now it's time for us to choose the T3 challenge that we believe will be the best fit for our talent, treasure, and time. Our goal is to honor God through this challenge.

Which idea should be choose?

BE EXCITED!

CRUNCH NOTES:

SO WHAT

So What Notes:

Leader:

Let's start to focus harder on what resources we will need to make our specific mission happen. Last week we were general and vague, but now we have a specific challenge that will require specific resources. Also talk about how you can raise, find, or seek the money you might need.

RESOURCE LIST:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.