

LOST

Finding the Path to Financial Peace

Lesson One: “You Are... Where?” Luke 19:1-10

1. The problem with being *lost* is that you don't *know it* until you *already are*.
Luke 19:1-10
2. Being *lost* in our *finances* is a major problem, because *money* is the Jesus' greatest *competition* for our *heart*.
Luke 16:13
3. You can't *follow Jesus* with all your *heart* and stay *lost* in your *finances*.
Matthew 6:21

When Your'e LOST You Can't...

- 💰 Find the power in surrendering your finances to Him.
(Matthew 6:24-27 & I Chronicles 29:11)
- 💰 Find the joy in financial health.
(Proverbs 21:20)
- 💰 Find the freedom to do what God wants you to do.
(Proverbs 22:7)
- 💰 Find the peace in real contentment.
(Hebrews 13:5)

STEP ONE: Find out where you are!

For Life Group Discussion:

1. When was a time you were totally lost? What feelings hit you when you realized it? How did you deal with those feelings?
2. Read Matthew 6:21-27. What is it that Jesus warns us about worrying over? How is money God's chief competitor for our hearts affection? How should this impact the way we think about our possessions?
3. Read Proverbs 22:7. What is the mastery that financial debt holds in our heart? What are the losses we face when we get lost in finances through debt?
4. Read Hebrews 13:5. What are the things God wants us to find when we conquer our financial lostness? What role does contentment play in that process?
5. Review the homework assignment and discuss ways to accomplish it this month. Pray that we will give our whole hearts and lives to God so we can enjoy the peace he wants us to have.

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Lesson Two: Fixing my Coordinates Luke 12:22-34

1. Getting *LOST* is easy but getting back on track takes focus and work.
Luke 12:13-20
2. Leaving *LOST*-ness takes both knowing where we are, and setting a new heading towards our goal.
Luke 12:27-34

My Goal: God-centered management of my God-given gifts.

Psalms 24:1, Deuteronomy 8:18, Matthew 6:33

3. Reaching this goal means avoiding the controlling power of debt.
Proverbs 17:18, Proverbs 22:7

Lessons from formerly *LOST* folk...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

STEP TWO: Fix your heading on your goal!

For Life Group Discussion:

1. If you've been trying to track your spending this month, how has it effected your buying habits? What considerations does it bring to mind when you think about any purchase?
2. Read Luke 12:13-21. What mistake did the rich man make? In what ways was he *LOST* in his finances? What does verse 21 says was the important "savings plan" he missed?
3. Read Psalm 24:1 and I Corinthians 4:1-2. In what ways are we "managers of God's goods"? How should this impact our financial goals? How do Jesus' words in Matthew 6:33 give us guidance in this matter?
4. Read Proverbs 17:18 & 22:7. Why does the Bible speak negatively about debt? What are the spiritual benefits of getting out of debt? What kind of changes in thinking and behavior would it take for you to move out of debt?
5. Share what parts of the testimony from "formerly *LOST* folk" was most important for you? What victories from following God could you share with your group? What changes are you prepared to make to get un-*LOST* this week? Pray for the resolve to do so.

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Lesson Three: Staying on the Path | Timothy 6:6-11

1. The battle for my heart is fought in my wallet. Luke 12:33-34
2. Only by starting where I am and surrendering control to God can I set a course to my goal. Proverbs 28:26

My Goal: *God-centered management of my God-given gifts.*

3. When path is set the real battle begins: Be content and stick with it!
Ecclesiastes 1:8 & 5:10-11, I Timothy 6:6-1 & 17-20

4 Steps to Peace & Contentment

1. **Pick a percentage to live on.**
2. **Track what you spend.**
3. **Dump dumb debt.**
4. **Give first, save second, live on the rest.**

STEP Three: Stick with the plan!

For Life Group Discussion:

1. When you have made a plan to accomplish something, how easily do you get distracted? What kinds of things distract you from sticking with a financial plan? How have you controlled that?
2. Read Ecclesiastes 1:8 and 5:10-11 What does the writer warn us about here? Can things ever truly satisfy us? How does Satan use discontentment to get us off track spiritually?
3. Respond to this statement: *"If you don't have enough now, you'll never have enough."*
4. Read I Timothy 6:6-10 & 17-20. What warnings does Paul offer wealthy people? What commands does he give? Why is generosity such a powerful bridle for discontentment? How does awareness of the needs of others help us in generosity?
5. Review the four steps that conclude the lesson. Share a goal that is part of your financial plan. Pray together for the resolve to stick to the plan and honor God with the freedom it brings you.