



# STILL GOD'S

**Still God's Series**

**Part 2 - "What's Stopping You From Spending?"**

**Small Group Material**

**February 11th, 2018**

**Leader Guide**

**Bottom Line:** *We have to be aware of what money does to us and how it influences our hearts and eyes.*

**Study Verses:** *1 Timothy 6:6-10, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Hebrews 13:5*

**Define The Win:** *Participants would recognize the potential power money has on their hearts and minds. They would pinpoint the traps we tend to fall for when we are governed by the love of money. Group members would articulate steps they can take to develop a generous heart and become rich in good deeds.*

## **Key Points**

- *Stewardship is being trusted with what you do not own.*
- *We need reminders that everything belongs to God and is given to us as provision for His purposes.*
- *Stewardship governs generosity and contentment.*
- *There is always a war taking place for your heart's allegiance.*
- *Placing your hope in riches fuels arrogance and breeds independence.*
- *Your relationship with the owner (God) will determine how you see everything you own.*
- *Our possessions aren't bad; we just need to possess a proper perspective on them.*

- *You keep from falling in love with lesser things by having an absolute commitment to the thing that is worthy of your affection.*
- *The more we depend on something, the more focused and obsessed we become about it.*

## **ENCOUNTER**

*"In the absence of a vividly superior life in God's Kingdom, wealth creates in most of us an illusion of security and well-being that causes us to trust it rather than God." -Dallas Willard*

- **Read the quote from Dallas Willard. In what ways does money possess the power to lure and direct our heart's affections?**
- **How has "the love of money" influenced your life, as well as those around you?**
- **Would you say you spend your money on purpose? Why or why not? What makes you answer in the way that you do?**
- **How does stewardship govern our pursuit of generosity and contentment?**

## **FORMATION**

- **Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8. What makes godliness with contentment "a great gain" for us as believers? How does having this mindset influence our perspective on our possessions?**
- **Read 1 Timothy 6:9-10. What warnings does the author give to those who desire to be rich?**
- **Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. By the world's standards most of us are considered rich. Since this is the case, what wisdom should we glean from this passage? What does it mean to be "rich in good works"?**
- **Read Hebrews 13:5. How does one keep their life free from the "love of money"?**

## **EXPRESSION**

- **The more we depend on something, the more focused and obsessed we become about it. If this is true, where have you become dependent on money for a sense of security, control, and purpose?**
- **What does your money do to you? Why do you react to money in this way?**

- **What is one thing you can do this week to take a step towards being "rich in good works"? Why was this step placed on your heart?**

**LEADER INSIGHT:** *Many of us underestimate the dominant force that money possesses. It is strong and powerful, capable of capturing our affection and attention. In our quest to develop generous hearts, we have to be aware of what money does to us and how it influences our hearts and eyes. We can't ignore the war taking place for our heart's allegiance, with one of the major battlegrounds being our money and possessions. Our possessions aren't bad; we just need to possess a proper perspective on them.*

*Scriptures warn us time and time again about the love of money. Placing our hope in riches fuels arrogance and breeds independence. The more we depend on something, the more focused and obsessed we become about it. As a result, we lose sight of the source of our provision and forget that we are renters, rather than owners, of our "stuff." Stewardship is being trusted with what we do not own.*

*Our relationship with the owner (God) will determine how we see everything we own. We keep from falling in love with lesser things by having an absolute commitment to the thing that is worthy of our affection. We need reminders that everything belongs to God and is given to us as provision for His purposes. Stewardship governs generosity and contentment.*