

**Proverbs 11:28 (NIV)**

Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

Don't let your money \_\_\_\_\_ you. \_\_\_\_\_ your money.

Let \_\_\_\_\_ master you, and \_\_\_\_\_ will master your money.

God wants to make you His \_\_\_\_\_, but money wants to make you its \_\_\_\_\_.

**Hebrews 13:5-6**

<sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"

**Ecclesiastes 5:10**

Those who love money will never have enough. How absurd to think that wealth brings true happiness!

**I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that it's not the answer. - Jim Carrey**

Spiritually fit people live \_\_\_\_\_ lives.

Household budget:

Food - 5 to 15%

Savings - 10 to 15%

Charity - 10 to 15%

Housing - 25 to 35%

Everything else - 25 to 35%

Gillette George (per month):

Food - \$750

Savings - \$850

Charity - \$850

Housing - \$1900

Everything else - \$1,900

**Luke 12:15**

Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.

Fit people \_\_\_\_\_ the most important things.

**Malachi 3:7-11**

<sup>7</sup>Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' <sup>8</sup>"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup>You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup>Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. <sup>11</sup>I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty.

Tithing is \_\_\_\_\_ only an Old Testament command.

**Matthew 5:20-45**

<sup>20</sup>For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>21</sup>"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.

<sup>27</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup>But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

# LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION NOTES

Luke 16:1

“There was a certain rich man who had a manager handling his affairs. One day a report came that the manager was wasting his employer’s money. <sup>2</sup>So the employer called him in and said, ‘What’s this I hear about you? Get your report in order, because you are going to be fired.’ <sup>3</sup> “The manager thought to himself, ‘Now what? My boss has fired me. I don’t have the strength to dig ditches, and I’m too proud to beg. <sup>4</sup>Ah, I know how to ensure that I’ll have plenty of friends who will give me a home when I am fired.’ <sup>5</sup> “So he invited each person who owed money to his employer to come and discuss the situation. He asked the first one, ‘How much do you owe him?’ <sup>6</sup>The man replied, ‘I owe him 800 gallons of olive oil.’ So the manager told him, ‘Take the bill and quickly change it to 400 gallons.’ <sup>7</sup> ““And how much do you owe my employer?’ he asked the next man. ‘I owe him 1,000 bushels of wheat,’ was the reply. ‘Here,’ the manager said, ‘take the bill and change it to 800 bushels.’ <sup>8</sup> “The rich man had to admire the dishonest rascal for being so shrewd. And it is true that the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with the world around them than are the children of the light.

**1. Do you believe it is wrong for Christians to be wealthy? Are Christians meant to live in poverty?**

**2. If you feel comfortable doing so, talk to the group about your journey to become debt free. Is it important to you to be free of debt?**

**3. 33% of U.S. born-again Christians say it is impossible for them to get ahead in life because of the financial debt they have incurred. What are the primary reason so many people are in debt, and how can obeying God’s teachings help Christians break free from debt?**

<sup>9</sup>Here’s the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home. <sup>10</sup> “If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. <sup>11</sup> And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? <sup>12</sup> And if you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own?

**4. 17% of Christian adults claim to tithe (give 10% of your income), but only 3% actually do. Why is this the area that causes so many Christians to disobey God?**

**5. Do you have a story to share about a time that was God was faithful to provide for you or bless you or someone you know when you/they obeyed Him by being sacrificially generous?**

If you would like to use the “Let’s Talk About It” videos in your devotions, go to: [www.youtube.com/NewLifeGillette](http://www.youtube.com/NewLifeGillette)