

FINANCIAL FREEDOM

Life Group Leaders Guide

Directions

This packet contains a leading guide that will help you lead effectively through the supplied *ABC's of Financial Freedom Workbook* by Barry Cameron. We believe by using this guide alongside the book you and your group will be able to better apply Sunday's sermon to the workbook as well as take the content deeper. This packet will be less involved than our normal curriculum because there is a lot that is provided in the workbook itself. As always, feel free to edit this guide as you see fit. As the leader, you know what will best point your people to Jesus.

Financial Freedom Series Schedule

Week	Sermon Date	Topic of sermon	Topic of life group
Week 1	10/15	Attitude	Financial Freedom Workbook (p. 5-10)
Week 2	10/22	Bondage	Financial Freedom Workbook (p. 11-14)
Week 3	10/29	Choice	Financial Freedom Workbook (p. 15-19)
Week 4	11/5	Decision	Financial Freedom Workbook (p. 21-26)
Week 5	11/12	Encouragement	Financial Freedom Workbook (p. 27-34)
Week 6	11/19	*Here To Help: Mandate	Financial Freedom Workbook (p. 35-41)

*Please note that the Financial Freedom series has only 5 Sunday messages but has 6 life groups that correspond with it. This means on 11/19 we will be beginning a new series, *Here to Help*, but the life group topic for that week will remain *Financial Freedom*.

The Point Church Life Group Curriculum

Financial Freedom - Week 6

Purpose of Study

This purpose of this study is to open the eyes of believers to see what God could call them to in the future. While becoming financially free is important, it is not the ultimate goal. Instead, financial freedom is necessary so that we can give more of what God gives us to His work around the world. Hopefully, this study will excite a believer to begin thinking through how God can use their finances in the future.

Flow of Study

1. **Optional Icebreaker:** What is something you would do if money was no object at all?

2. Have someone in the group read **Luke 16:9** and another read **2 Corinthians 9:10-11**. Make sure everyone has the blanks in the workbook filled in (an answer key to these types of questions can be found on p. 61 of the workbook). Allow your group time to discuss these verses. The following questions could be helpful for generating conversations about these verses:

I tell you, use worldly **WEALTH** to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into **ETERNAL** dwellings. ~ Luke 16:9 (NIV)

- Randy Alcorn says “God prospers me not to raise my standard of living, but to raise my standard of giving.” How does that quote strike you?
- When you imagine being *Financially Free* do you naturally think of ways that you will now be able to bless others?
- Giving to others not only helps them financially, it can dramatically deepen relationships. Does anyone have an example of how they have seen giving of their worldly wealth deepen their relationships with another?

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also **SUPPLY** and **INCREASE** your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be **ENRICHED/RICH** in every way so that you can be **GENEROUS** on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. ~ 2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (NIV)

- What stands out to you from this verse?
- This passage is clear that when you give to others, it will cause them to give thanks to God. In other words, your giving creates more thanksgiving to God. Have you ever connected that your generosity results in thanksgiving to God? Do you think this is your motive for giving generously to others?

3. Have someone read **Matthew 25:14-30** (the workbook only has people read to verse 25 but we think it would be good to read the whole parable). Allow your group time to think through the parable and answer the questions on p. 36. When finished, give your group time to talk about this parable. The following questions could be helpful at generating conversation.

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²² “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴ “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

²⁸ “‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

- a. What stood out to you from this parable?
- b. Were any of the questions convicting?
- c. What do you think is the “moral of the story” in this parable?

4. Walk through **The Four Purposes of God’s Blessings in our Lives** section on **p. 37-39** by asking a person from your group to read each section and corresponding verses. Allow your group members time to fill in the blanks (an answer key to these types of questions can be found on **p. 61** of the workbook). The following questions might be helpful to generate conversation about the strategies and corresponding verses.

a. **To FINANCE His Kingdom**

- i. God owns and controls everything, why do you think He chooses to use His followers as a way to finance His work?
- ii. Jesus was clear that *where your treasure is, there your heart will be also* (Matthew 6:21). Right now, do you feel like your heart rejoices in God’s kingdom advancing? Do you think giving could be something that changes your heart in that way?

b. **To care for our FAMILIES**

- i. Do any of those verse or ideas stand out to you?
- ii. Reread **1 Timothy 5:8**, what does God’s severity towards a person who does not care for their family show Him?

c. **To MEET THE NEEDS of others**

- i. God is clear that we are to give 10% to the local church but also that our giving should not stop there. What are some other avenues of giving that have been life giving for you to be a part of?

d. **To live an ABUNDANT life**

- i. Did anything stand out to you from this section?
- ii. How freeing would it be for you right now regarding your retirement if you would have done the \$4,000 Roth IRA example that they mentioned in this section?
- iii. Would it bring you joy to establish something like that for your children?

- iv. If you were able to retire with enough money to be set for the rest of life, what would you do?
5. Have your people turn to **p. 40** in the workbook and challenge them to complete the homework section this week.
6. End your study with a time of prayer where people can share prayer requests and be prayed for before they leave. If possible, please steer some prayer towards what your group talked about during this study.