



Life Group Discussion Questions

Ice Breaker

What is one area in your life you hold onto tightly and struggle to trust God in?

Scripture

Read Matthew 6:21, 22:37

God doesn't want part of you; He wants all 100% of you. It is pretty clear; how we manage our treasure is a heart test that reveals what we're committed to.

When it comes to the subject of money we have all kinds of different money management styles. Money is one of the biggest sources of conflict in many marriages and relationships.

In your home growing up or in your home today, is money a source of stress and conflict? If yes, how did your family/or you address it? If not, how did you get to a place where you feel confident and peaceful about your finances?

Over the course of this series we will go through God's 3-part financial plan. We call it the 100 plan, and it's so simple all of us can follow it.

Here is the plan: 10 + 10 + 80 = 100

The first 10, represents taking the first 10% of your income and honoring God by tithing: giving to the local church that you're a part of and connected to. That is what we are talking about this week. We honor God first and then He promises to bless the rest. The second 10, is to take the next 10%, save it and get compound interest working for you.

The 80 means you take the final 80% and spend it on everything else, trusting God.

Often, we approach things in the opposite order, spending first and then saving and giving only if there is anything left. Both Scripture and our own experience teach us that this sequence doesn't work. Choosing to follow this sequence, we create a ME, ME, GOD plan, and put God in last place. We give Him our leftovers, instead of bringing him our first and best.

"The 100 Plan"

Ben Davis

Every time you get _____ you take a test.

When you honor God _____ and best, He promises to _____ the rest.

Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be."

Matthew 22:37 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Luke 12:13-21

Two Questions

1. Can God _____
_____?

2. Am I _____?

Malachi 3:8,10

Luke 11:42

Read Deuteronomy 14:23

Honoring God first with your giving represents a heart test for a follower of Jesus.

It tests your trust in God, are you putting God first or not? If we're honest, the reason many of us struggle is what the apostle Paul called, "the love of money." Jesus called it greed

Read Luke 12:13-21

Jesus then shares a story about a man who was a visionary, an innovator and successful entrepreneur. He planned for everything, except the things that really mattered. Jesus called him a fool. According to Jesus, a fool is someone **who lives with no thought of God**, with no thought to God's activity in their life and world. It wasn't wrong to plan for the future; it's that his plans didn't include God.

Ben challenged us to wrestle with two questions as we apply this message this week in our own lives.

The first question to ask is, "Am I trusting God with all?"

Psalm 24:1 says, the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. In other words, it's not just the first 10% that belongs to God. 100% belongs to God. We just manage it, and God asks us to return the first 10% to Him.

It's as if God is saying, "You'll go further on 90% of your income with my blessing than 100% of it on your own." When you give to God your first and best, He promises to bless the rest. In **Luke 6:38, Jesus said, "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be poured into your lap."** Until we prioritize giving as our first priority, God will never be able to bless our finances.

The second question to ask yourself, "Am I robbing God?"

Read Malachi 3:6-12

Have you ever tested God in your tithing? If you have, what were the challenges you faced and blessings you experienced? If not, what are some of the barriers that keep you from tithing? The tithe, the first 10%, belongs to God. You don't actually give a tithe to God, you return it to Him. The Bible never speaks of giving your tithe but uses words like bringing or returning the tithe.

You have the choice to make a decision today to put yourself in a position where God could bless your life with financial freedom. Ben encouraged everyone to try tithing for 100 days and if God doesn't bless you, RiverGlen will refund your giving. It's a money back guarantee. Yet, it also requires expectant faith, saying to God, "I will trust you 100%."

How will you respond to Ben's 100 day challenge of putting God to the test? What action steps will you take to make this a reality?