

FREEDOM: Put God First

November 2, 2025

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Message Summary.

Jesus teaches that money is the most significant competitor for our trust in God. True financial freedom doesn't start with more money—it starts with putting God first. When we seek His kingdom above everything else, anxiety loses its grip, and peace takes its place. Freedom begins when faith replaces fear.

Key Scripture Summaries.

Matthew 6:24-34 | Jesus warns that it is impossible to serve both God and money. He says we are to trust our Father, who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers, reminding us that we are far more valuable to Him. When we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, He promises to meet our needs and free us from anxiety about tomorrow.

James 1:17 | Every good and perfect gift comes from above.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 | God gives us the ability to produce wealth.

1 Timothy 6:10 | The love of money is the root of many kinds of evil.

Romans 8:32 | If God gave us His Son, He will graciously provide all we need.

Start Talking.

1. What's one area of life where you tend to feel the most financial stress?
2. When it comes to money, do you tend to feel more peace or pressure, and why?

Start Thinking.

- Read Matthew 6:24-25. Why does Jesus connect serving money with anxiety?
- How does Jesus use nature (birds, lilies, grass) to challenge our view of provision?

- What does it mean to “seek first the kingdom of God” in your daily life when it comes to finances, priorities, and trust?

Start Sharing.

1. Share a time when God provided for you in a way you didn't expect.
2. Which part of Jesus' teaching here is most challenging for you to live out, and why?
3. Which of these Next Steps speaks most to you right now: Reorder your trust, Remember your source, or Respond by putting God first?
4. How would your stress level change if you believed God knows and provides what you need?

Start Praying.

God, thank You for being our source and provider. Help us stop serving money and start trusting You. Teach us to seek Your kingdom first, to reorder our trust, remember Your goodness, and respond with generosity. Free us from anxiety and fill us with peace that comes from knowing You've got us covered. In Jesus's name, amen.

Start Doing.

- Reorder your trust. Review your finances this week and ask, “What does this reveal about who I'm serving?”
- Remember your source. Each morning, take a moment to thank God for one way He has provided for you.
- Respond by putting God first. Take one intentional step of generosity or obedience this week to prioritize God's kingdom in your finances.