



OCTOBER'S THEME
CHANGE

SCRIPTURE John 10:7-13; Matthew 19:16-22

BOTTOM LINE Money is a master, but Jesus is Lord

MEMORY VERSES John 10:10

LIFE APP Ask God to show you how to use money to bring life into someone's story



• Tonight we are going to kick off our stewardship campaign for students. Students will be invited to use "text to give" for their offering and to fill out weekly offering cards where they can commit to leverage their resources for ministry

MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT:

**THINK
ABOUT THIS**

Money is all around us. We earn it when we work, we spend it when we need things, and we give it away to benefit others. Sometimes, though, money can work its way into an unhealthy place in our lives where it becomes a master that pulls at our hearts making us feel insecure, shame, guilt, and a whole lot of other crummy feelings. Jesus had a lot to say about money. Most importantly, Jesus called out money as one of the things in our lives that pretend to have our best interest in mind, but really only wants us to serve it- like a master over a slave. Jesus says that he is the "good shepherd" and "lord of our lives" and that what he has come to give us is "life." When we choose to follow Jesus, we can begin to see money rightly, not as a master, but as a means to bless people and create positive change.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How much money do you have to have before you are rich? Write that down and don't share it. How much money do you have to have to be poor? Go one by one and share with the group your numbers and why you chose them.
- Have you ever considered a world or a life without money? What would that world look like? How would you get things you wanted? Would everyone be able to have everything they wanted?
- Do you think that there are people who are ruled by money? Like they spend their lives wanting more or less of it? What is that like?
- Do you see television shows or commercials that seem to set unreasonable expectations around what money can get you? What are some examples?
- Read: John 7-13. Masters want to rule us and don't have our best interests in mind. Jesus says that he has come like a "good shepherd." What is the difference to you?
- Read: Matthew 16:16-22. The young man wants to live the best life he can. He's followed the rules, but he still feels as though he is coming up short. Jesus advises him to give away his money and follow him. What would you do? Many of us live in relatively affluent situations but still feel like we're missing out on something. From what you know about what it means to follow Jesus, do you think that living like he did could lead to what you're missing out on?

EXTRAS

PUT IT TO WORK

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Say: The real challenge that Jesus gave to the rich young ruler was to put his money and possessions to work. What's that mean? Jesus wanted the man to use what he had first been given by God for the sake and life of other people. The first century world, like our own, was filled with people at the margins who needed help from people with means. What can you put to work? Certainly, I'm not expecting that you have money like a rich young ruler, but you have been blessed with a variety of other gifts that can change the world. Here is a list:

Time – The upside of living in the developed world is that we have plenty of TIME on our hands because we don't need to walk five miles to school each day. What could you do with your time that would bless people?

Talent – Our StuMin community is LOADED with talent: writers, scientists, naturalists, athletes, performers, debaters, communicators—how might you use these talents to bless people?

Relationships – Whether you know it or not, you have friends in high places. Teachers, parents, coaches, administrators, legislators—how might you leverage these relationships to bless people?

Location – You live in one of the greatest communities and areas in the country. How could you leverage where we sit on a map and in relationship to other places to bless others?

Opportunity – Each day windows open, conversations happen, things roll past your news feed where you can bless people. How might you use those opportunities to bless people?

Education – You are a part of the most highly educated generation the world has ever known. How might you leverage what you have learned and can learn to bless other people?

JUST FOR FUN

LET'S GO SHOPPING

What You Need: Fake \$50.00 for each person

What You Do: Give each kid \$50. Out of that \$50, they need to buy everything they need for tomorrow. EVERYTHING! Remind them they can't go over \$50. Give them the list with items and prices.

ITEM	COST	ITEM	COST
Groceries to make all meals	\$25.00	Jeans—Cool!	\$75.00
Breakfast—McDonalds (Sandwich and milk)	\$5.00	Jeans—Yesterday's	\$0.00
Lunch—McDonalds	\$8.00	Jeans—Good Will	\$8.00
Lunch—Buffet	\$15.00	Jeans—Target	\$25.00
Lunch—Raman Noodles	\$0.50	T-shirt—Cool!	\$25.00
Lunch—School	\$2.00	T-shirt—Yesterday!	\$0.00
Skip a Meal	\$0.00	T-shirt—Good Will	\$5.00
Supper—McDonalds	\$8.00	T-Shirt—Target	\$15.00
Supper—Buffet	\$20.00	Socks and Underwear—Yesterday's	\$0.00
Supper—Raman Noodles	\$0.50	Socks and Underwear—Good Will	\$2.00
		Socks and Underwear—Target	\$10.00
		Transportation to school/work	\$2.00

Goal: This exercise helps define how important money is, and how we need to budget and be careful. It also shows how, sometimes, we can make do with less in one area to have something nicer in another. Add to the conversation helping others with the resources we have. What can we do without to help others?