



HOW TO BE RICH

small group lesson : who is rich?
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Small Group Study Questions

The following questions are meant to help your group enter into meaningful discussion that we pray will help you become more fully-devoted followers of Christ. They are simply a guide, so you don't have to use or get through all of them. You may want to look through them ahead of time and identify the ones that would work well with your group. Any questions you don't get to might be used by your group members for study and reflection in their personal devotional times. And if your group naturally breaks the ice, feel free to skip the icebreaker question. Remember, it's all about community, so let the Spirit guide your discussion where He wants it to go.

Icebreaker

Why do you think \$100 seemed like a fortune when you were a child, but it doesn't now?

Discussion Questions

- This weekend, Pastor Greg helped us to see that even if we don't recognize it, we ARE rich. When you realize that you are one of the richest people in the world, how does it make you feel?
- Despite the reality of being rich, why don't we "feel" rich?
- With the current financial climate looking the way that it does, even those of us who had thought we were rich may be beginning to rethink that. How can we keep right attitudes about worry, tithing, generosity and thankfulness when there is currently such fear about the future?
- Read 1 Timothy 6:17. When we don't consider ourselves to be rich, how does this affect our attitudes and actions concerning money?
- After this week's message and discussion regarding the riches in our lives, are there things in your life that need to change? If so, what do you need to do to change?

Action Steps

- As a small group, spend time in prayer for the Church in these current economic times. Pray that American Christians will recognize the wealth and responsibility they've been given, and that they will abound with generosity and hope for the world. And make sure to pray specifically for any group members who are struggling financially, that God will strengthen them and draw them closer to Himself.
- Go to www.globalrichlist.com and enter in your annual salary to see exactly where you rank. Then ask yourself how you will look at your financial situation differently this week in light of what you've learned.



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Leader Tip

God never promised the life of Christ-followers will be free of difficulties, but too often Christians rely on their circumstances to determine their peace, joy and contentment—it's often an issue of spiritual maturity. So while we want to be encouraging and praying for our group members who have been hit hard by the economic crisis, we also want to be challenging them as well. What if things don't change? What if things get worse? Will this affect their attitudes and how they view God? It's not about our circumstances; it's ALL about God's character and because of that we have hope and joy... keep bringing it back to this truth.

Leader Care

As leaders, it's really hard to encourage our small group members and to tell them to go out and bring hope to the world if we're not feeling very hopeful ourselves. How can we with conviction tell others, "Oh, it's all so much bigger than you think!" if our world has become small and mean and we're focused on circumstances? If this is where you currently find yourself, it's time for you to remember your first love. Ask God to open your eyes to the bigger picture behind the scenes, to the joy and wonder and peace that is available to the world, if we would only look past the present circumstances.

Recommended Resources

The Treasure Principle, Randy Alcorn
Your Money Counts, Howard Dayton
Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger, Ronald Sider