



HOW TO BE RICH

small group lesson : learning generosity
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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

What's one of the most generous things you have ever seen anyone do?

Discussion Questions

As a small group, begin by reading Leviticus 27:30 and Malachi 3:10.

- Do you think God really "needs" our money? Why or why not?
- What is the point of tithing? In other words, what do you think He really wants from us through our tithe?
- Why do you think some people don't tithe?
- If you've tithed before, what are some of the blessings you've experienced through your tithing?
- Does God still expect us to tithe even when we are in rough economic times?

Action Steps

- As a small group, pray that God will strengthen your group members in obedience and give them the courage to be generous with their tithes and offerings, especially those who are currently fearful of the economic future.
- Brainstorm how your small group might be generous, either with time or money, this holiday season. Find an organization to donate to and follow through before the end of the year. Check the Seacoast Missions website for ideas.

Leader Tip

Talking about tithing... Fun, isn't it? You're probably already aware that this can be an uncomfortable topic for some people. So make sure that you keep bringing the discussion back to God's word—in theory, we can come up with a lot of excuses for why God would excuse us from giving, but when we study Scripture it seems pretty clear what we're supposed to do. Challenge your members to start tithing if they don't already and check in with them over the next few weeks to see how God has shown up.



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Leader Care

May this passage from Leonard Sweet's "A Magna Carta of Trust by an Out-of-Control Disciple" minister to you whatever you may be facing this week:

"I am part of the Church of the Out-of-Control. I once was a control junkie, but now am an Out-of-Control Disciple. I've given up my control to God. I trust and obey the Spirit. I've jumped off the fence, I've stepped over the line, I've pulled out all the stops, I'm holding nothing back... My fundamental identity is as a disciple of Jesus—but even more, as a disciple of Jesus who lives in Christ, who doesn't walk through history simply 'in his steps,' but seeks to travel more deeply IN HIS SPIRIT. Until he comes again or calls me home, you can find me filling not killing time so that one day he will pick me out in the lineup of the ages as one of his own. And then... it will be worth it all... to hear these words, the most precious words I can ever hear: 'Well done, though good and faithful... Out-of-Control Disciple.'"

Recommended Resources

The Treasure Principle, Randy Alcorn
Your Money Counts, Howard Dayton