

# GOD'S BLESSING OF KNOWING THE FOUR PURPOSES FOR MONEY

## LEADER'S GUIDE

### For Lesson 2



Providing "GOD'S NEW LIFESTYLE OF FINANCIAL FREEDOM"

Thank you for your participation!

With great joy the our Denominationwishes to provide Financial Hope for our church members.

This is your job as instructor – providing HOPE –

God has something better for us than the old and corrupt financial situation.

YOU as leader wish to present the opportunity to gain a Whole New Lifestyle of Financial Freedom. This involves a total of 20 lessons for those longing for new freedom and peace in their lives.

This time you will cover lesson 2.

**NOTE:** Before closing you need to find out if your attendees want to practice this lesson at home. This is just the second step towards God's great gift of a "LIFESTYLE OF FINANCIAL FREEDOM". There are 18 more steps to take! Each lesson closes with a request to make a DECISION. Therefore attendees must **SIGN** a desire to read, discuss and begin to apply this lesson at home.

### THE LEADER'S HOME PREPARATION

Please review and analyze what happened in your first meeting with Lesson 1. Can you be better prepared this time?

There is NO need to prepare a lecture.

There are 5 steps you should take during your lesson preparation:

1) **Pray**

*before you prepare a new lesson that God would open your heart and your mind to His principles, that He would give you insight, and that He would help you to make these principles part of your own life. A good way to do this would be to read each lecture title part and briefly pray over that part (without reading the details).*

2) **Read** this lesson at home preferably a week prior to class meeting

3) **Answer** all questions yourself on paper.

4) **Discuss** the material with a spouse or friend.

5) **Pray**

*for your group that they would come with open hearts. That God would work in and through them. That they would understand the great joy the Lord desires for them as they seek to come closer to Him. Another effective way to pray is for each person by name.*

Each lesson is based on **discussions**.

In addition it would be excellent if you would gather and share financial illustrations and examples.

Are there other helpful things you want to add to your preparation?

## **LESSON MATERIALS**

Evaluate what more could be done to make your meeting pleasant and productive.

Each participant must have a lesson – if needed make more photocopies.

Have extra pens available in case someone forgets.

Participants must fill in blanks by writing on the lesson sheet.

(Not just mentally agree, but respond in writing.)

(Written down answers are needed later for additional use at home.)

Should anyone wish for additional blank lesson copies you may supply an extra copy.

What other items would you find helpful?

## **ATTENTION: INSTRUCTORS**

To what extent were you able to follow suggested times with Lesson 1? If you ran out of time, what happened? If it was high interest with animated discussions, then you may need to follow up with more time spent on Lesson 1. Or....did you talk too much! We know you want to help your group but they learn much better when they are involved.

These lessons are based on the self-discovery method. Please do not lecture or explain anything. If you see a difficulty or an item that you think needs clarification. Do NOT explain it, do NOT clarify it. Do NOT lecture. Allow people to have different opinions—unless it is the basic doctrines of our faith!

Some parts will not become clear immediately – but do NOT explain them – leave them until the next lesson.

Unexplained parts form a stimulant to explore further at home – so, do NOT explain, do NOT talk.

If you lecture you will run out of time and not be able to cover the whole lesson. (And it will become boring).

In your opinion at what level was group participation last time? Measure 1 (as very poor) to 10 (excellent)

What can you do to increase participation? Are there individuals you need to draw out? Are people afraid they will be laughed at or looked down upon if they say something wrong?

## **DISCUSSIONS, BRAINSTORMING, DISAGREEMENTS**

Often there is a difference between God's ways and ours (see Isa 55:9) and this difference can result in animated discussions.

This is exactly what you desire. Several such discussions may not solve an issue or provide an answer because the answer is to be discovered in later lessons. Do not stifle discussions. As people interact they will share their discoveries later at home with family members, thus expanding your results and influence into practical applications.

When in your lesson preparation you discover an unclear item follow this procedure: Ask your group 'what do you think of this? What does this mean? and wait for an answer. If no one answers, then ask by name 'Taras, what do you think?' or 'Natasha, can you help us?' or 'Petro, share your opinion' etc.

In order to gain God's Financial Freedom attendees must explore. Listening is passive, not active!

Everyone must participate and become involved. This means you as the leader must stimulate them to talk, draw them out.

REMEMBER: God's view is always different from our natural understanding.

## **SUGGESTED LESSON TIME FRAME**

TOTAL anticipated lesson time is 2 hours and 15 minutes

Approximate time allotments are stated behind each lesson part.

The lesson time should be very flexible, perhaps up to 3 hours.

Your lesson time is to be determined by you and your group.

## **LESSON ACTIVITIES TO BE COMPLETED**

This lesson is all about discovering what **God's** Purposes are for money. Financial Freedom is not a quick mental lesson to be learned. Rather it is an application process that entails many aspects. These aspects over time will blend together into experiencing a whole new Financial Freedom Lifestyle with God's blessings.

This second lesson consists of 8 parts.

Each of these 8 parts are described for you in the Lesson Guide that follows and how to interact with it.

All you have to do is follow the recommendations for each part.

## **LESSON GUIDE**

How does dependence upon God bring financial independence? In this second session we continue to draw insight from the life of Elijah and how God helped him to know and understand financial security when he made the decision to obey His Word now, and understand His reasons later. You will be delighted to discover that God can and does use money to accomplish many more purposes than we would naturally think. In addition to providing for basic needs, learn how money under God's control, in any circumstance and in any amount, will confirm His guidance, unite Christians, and illustrate His supernatural power.

*"God does not need your money; He wants what it represents--you. Finances are God's gift to you to fulfill His will for your life. While God desires you to prioritize His work in giving, He wants you to purpose to follow and serve Him no matter what happens with your finances."*

*- Paul Chappell*

*Follow up with any parts of lesson #1 some attendees did not do at home last time.*

*Review their answers now. Provide correct answers. Discuss the issues.*

*Do as much of this as possible prior to the official class time allotted for this lesson.*

### **1. KNOW GOD'S FOUR PURPOSES FOR MONEY**

p. 1 > 15 min <

#### **ELIJAH – A great example to a backslidden nation**

Our main Bible character for this lesson is Elijah. Who knows the story about Elijah when he had to hide in the wilderness and then went to the widow of Zarephath? Ask a volunteer to summarize that story briefly—or if your group is unfamiliar with it, you may want to ask someone to read 1 Kings 17:1-16.

Now look at the 4 topics:

**Provision** – (1 Kings 17:4) Ask someone to read the verse. How did Elijah experience God's provision? 'Can someone name a time or item of special provision in their life?'

Follow their testimony with a brief prayer of gratitude by another person.

**Direction** – (1 Kings 17:7) Have someone read the verse. Why did Elijah have to leave the brook? What direction did God provide him? "Can someone name a time of specific Divine direction through a financial happening in his life?" Follow this testimony with a brief prayer of gratitude by another person.

**Fellowship** – (1 Kings 17:9) Have someone read the verse. God's direction put Elijah in contact with someone else. What does the Bible say she was supposed to do? 'Can someone name a time in their life when a financial situation resulted in new and unexpected fellowship with another person?' Follow their testimony with a brief prayer of gratitude by another person.

**Demonstration** – (Jas. 5:17) Have someone read the verse at the top of the page—2 Chron. 16:9. Ask someone else to read the verse from James. What did Elijah pray for and what did God do?

Let's see how well we understand God's purposes for money.

### **2. DO YOU UNDERSTAND GOD'S PURPOSES FOR MONEY?**

p. 3 > 10 min < Personal Evaluation

Ask everyone individually if they completed this evaluation at home. The Bible references are for home review later. Right now in class just ask them about questions they did not understand.

When you have covered that share the following answers:

*1.False 2.True 3.False 4.False 5.False 6.True 7.False 8.True 9.True 10.False 11.True 12.True 13.False 14.False 15.False 16.True 17.False 18.True*

Make sure all participants mark what the correct answer is.

Then have each one calculate their total number of correct answers and write it in.

EVALUATION SCORE: Next share the 4 official Evaluation Scores.

For each of the 4 categories ask attendees who fit that category to raise their hands. This provides identification, camaraderie, and group vision and need to explore God's blessings of Financial Freedom in-depth. (Laugh a lot – joke a lot).

My friends, to what degree do you understand God's purposes for money?

Who has 18-16 correct answers – raise your hands. Congratulations you have a clear understanding!

Who has 15-13 correct answers – raise your hands. Great – you have a fair understanding.

Who has 12-9 correct answers – raise your hands. I have good news, you have a poor understanding, but these lessons will help you to gain victory.

If you have 8 or less you don't need to raise your hands – unfortunately you lack knowledge of God's Scriptural principles for finances, but--the good news is "FINANCIAL FREEDOM" blessings are waiting.

NOTE: These questions are meant to get them thinking in new ways about Biblical financial principles.

People often think they know a lot about finances and how to handle money. Most people have self-confidence, and need to discover that in reality they do not know much about how to live a *Godly* Financial Lifestyle. To most attendees this will come as a shock. Hoorah! This is the goad, the motivation that you are looking for to stimulate them to attend all lessons.

### 3. THE SECRET OF KNOWING GOD'S PURPOSES FOR MONEY

p. 4 > 10 min <

**Providing needs; Demonstrating supernatural power; Indicating direction; Uniting Christians.**

This part will provide a basic Scriptural background for a discussion of the "FOUR BASIC PURPOSES FOR MONEY"

Spend only a very minimum amount of time on this part.

Have different participants read one of the suggested Bible references. Have someone in the group comment on them and then move on (avoid lecturing)

### 4. FOUR BASIC PURPOSES FOR MONEY

pp. 5–8 > 50 min <

Begin by discussing the opening paragraph. Make it lively! Then

1) TO PROVIDE BASIC NEEDS –

Read and discuss this part. –

Ask 2 questions:

What would God's application be for my family?

Why are we in general NOT content with these basic needs?

2) TO CONFIRM DIRECTION –

Read and discuss this part –

Ask 2 questions:

What is unpleasant for most of us about God's wisdom in this purpose?

- Sub-question – (What are the indications that God is confirming, or changing, our direction?)
- Sub-question – (What happens when we have already decided what we want to do?)

What do we have to change in our hearts in order to follow God's purpose in this area?

- Sub-question – (What actions can we take to bring change?)
- Sub-question – (What would be the advantages of becoming sensitive to God in this area? Can you give an illustration?)

3) TO GIVE TO CHRISTIANS –

Read and discuss–

One home assignment:

One pastor was concerned about the low level of love among his members. He realized that his members in reality did not really know and care much for each other. He requested each family to invite another family for a meal in their home. Like this pastor, the assignment of this lesson is for each group member to have another church family over for a meal or at least for tea within the next 2 weeks. (This must be a family who has never been in your home, not a relative, or a friend.) Provide your group with a testimony about the results!

Ask who is willing to try it.

Following this discussion let the group discuss the picture of “The Law of the Harvest”.

This is a beautiful illustration of “The Great Experiment” (Sowing first / trusting God first – later harvesting / later receiving from God). Receiving what?? Receiving wisdom, peace, contentment, help, etc, all of which are the results of a whole new lifestyle of applying Financial Freedom.

4) TO ILLUSTRATE GOD'S POWER –

Read and discuss –

Ask the following questions:

Have you seen God work in a supernatural way in your life when you prayed about a financial need? Please share.

What were the results? Did it build trust in you and others? Did it bring an unbeliever to salvation? Other?

What is your first response when you have a financial need? Depend on God or do it yourself? Or just worry? What brings glory to God? What NEEDS to be our first response?

## 5. APPLY GOD'S PURPOSES FOR MONEY

p. 9 > 20 min <

Let the group read each of the 8 items, one at a time.

Look up the Scripture!!!

For each item let the group discuss the answer – why is it a NO answer or why is it a YES answer.

### ***Personal commitment To God's Purposes for Money***

Have **you** as Leader helped bring the desires of your members into a closer proximity to God's desire for them.

No one is perfect, we will all still make mistakes, still fail in some parts – but what is your desire? The signature only indicates a decision to attempt to practice the things learned in this lesson.

Discuss this signature part and motivate each participant to sign this. (Remember: this is not a must! It is to be a freewill expression of their desire.)

The signature indicates that the participant is ready to participate in the next lesson.

## 6. CAN YOU IDENTIFY BASIC NEEDS?

p. 10 > 10 min < Basic Quiz Number 2

Read the title, share the answers

**Answers are:** 2, 3, 10, 13, 15, *Have each person silently review home responses.*

Ask who had other answers. Find out if they understand the key issue involved.

Solicit discussion if there is any confusion.

As leader keep a low profile unless the group goes too far astray. Then bring Scripture into it.

This is a rather simple activity. If you experience a time shortage assign this part as a home activity.

In that case share the answers at the beginning of your next meeting.

DO NOT neglect to follow up with this. It provides you with the opportunity to develop a personal relationship with your attendee and help them to conquer the material.

## 7. WHO ILLUSTRATES GOD'S PURPOSES FOR MONEY?

p. 11 > 10 min < Advanced Quiz Number 2

Share the answers:

**Answers are:** 1.E 2.B 3.A 4.F 5.C 6.D

And let each member correct their answers which were filled out at home.

Ask if anyone has other answers.

Are they confused or do they have solid reasons for it. (Usually we are not reading Scripture thinking about finances!)

Ask for the group to participate if individuals are struggling with it.

As leader only enter the discussion as a participant, not as an authority!

The purpose of this activity is to open the eyes of the attendees to see Bible people in more realistic daily life situations and how finances played an active role in their life. It shows how they pleased God

## 8. CAN YOU APPLY GOD'S PURPOSES FOR YOUR MONEY?

p. 12 > 10 min < Comprehensive Quiz Number 2

This is the last class activity before going home.

It should be done without referring back to other parts of the lesson.

Help each member to correct their earlier home replies.

Next share the answers which are found on page 9.

Ask if anyone had other answers and why.

If there is confusion or uncertainty ask others for input. Make sure it does not stray from Biblical principles.

Keep a low profile. Let them explore.

**Distribute Lesson # 3 and instruct / request that this lesson be read and filled out at home prior to the next meeting. The Personal Evaluation on p. 3 should be done BEFORE they read the lesson.**

Should your individuals be tardy in their home preparation you will need to greatly encourage them in this. You will need to impress upon them the importance of being servants to others who are prepared and now have to waste their time waiting. Another way to deal with this is to lengthen your lesson by an hour. But you want to be careful that the people who do prepare do not lose their incentive to do so.

**Close with PRAYER –**

*thanking God that He has specific purposes for the money and goods He entrusts us with, and for help putting Him first in this area of our lives.*

### **Contact Information for God's Blessing of Financial Freedom**

General info, Training, follow-up, help – Vera Lavrinenko – 096 254 33 24

Orders for paper materials – lessons, guides, posters, magnets, banners – Ivanka Dubenchuk – 096 103 98 77

For electronic materials on FF Website <http://svoboda.sytes.net> – Ivan Onishuk