

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"FUTILITY OF WEALTH" JUNE 26 & 27

SERIES OVERVIEW:

It's easy to look at the people around us and think how much greater our lives would be if we had what they do. We get caught up in thinking that the meaning and purpose of life can be found and perfected in the broken world we live in - "under the sun." And yet, King Solomon had wealth, power, a good job and plenty of time for leisure - as much as the world could give. And yet, even King Solomon in all his wisdom, riches, and status, reflects on all his pursuits and recognizes their futility. Under the sun, the grass is not always greener; but in a world redeemed by the Son, the grass is greener.

Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc. Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.

1

OPENING PRAYER AND REFLECTION:

About 4 minutes


Ask a volunteer to open in prayer.

2

BIG IDEA:


About 1 minute to read

Mo money, mo problems. The search for "enough" money is an endless pursuit of more; and, the more you have, the more there is to deal with. Jesus (as well as Proverbs) tells us numerous times that there is far more wisdom and reward in storing up treasure in heaven (treasure that never fades away) than storing up treasure on earth. What's more, treasure on earth can make it harder to enter the kingdom of heaven than it would be for a camel to go through the eye of a needle. Nothing we can do or earn can lead us to eternal life, it is only possible with God.



June 26 & 27, 2021

Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness! - Ecclesiastes 5:10 NLT

Reflect 

Read the full passage in your Bible - Ecclesiastes 5:10-20. What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might God be calling you to repent of or realign in your life (based upon this)?

What would acting upon this or obeying God look like?

DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

Can you say more about that?

How have you seen that play out in your life?

What does that stir up in you?

Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?

What might God be inviting you to do?

3

INTRO QUESTIONS:

About 10 minutes

Did having "enough" toilet paper during the scarcity of the pandemic make you feel wealthy? How much in storage was "enough" to bring you peace of mind?

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Read the entire scripture passage aloud as a group and discuss the questions on the card above. Use the [Discussion Help sidebar](#) to encourage deeper discussion.

Think about what you can take with you into eternity. Does that change how you work, live, and play today? Explain.

See also: Mark 10:17-27, Luke 3:11, Mark 9:35, Matthew 6:19-24. How do you know if you have made Jesus the Lord of your life or if you've put something else in that position?

5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 10 minutes

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to take the steps suggested. What trusted friend will you share your reflections with and when?

Extra credit: Google and listen to the children's song "Two Shirts" by Slugs and Bugs. Discuss in pairs: What basic necessities is God providing for you today? Are you growing in gratitude, or striving, or worry? What do you want to thank Jesus for today? What do you want to ask Jesus for?

TAKE IT DEEPER



Live It Out 

We were created for community. Ask a trusted friend (another follower of Jesus) to have a conversation about the power of money in your lives. Then pray together, for each other.

Pray 

Talk to God about acting upon or obeying his word. Remember to be still and listen.

How's your heart when it comes to money? Talk to God about that.

Thank God for the incomparable treasure of Jesus.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 5 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally.

Break into pairs. Share prayer requests and pray for your partner now.