

How to use this resource: Set aside 15-30 minutes to engage the daily material. If you're married it's best to engage together. Have your Bible ready and your heart open to hear from the Lord. If you have children in your home, it's so beneficial to them when you share what the Lord is teaching you and how his teaching is transforming your attitudes and behavior.

So now...Let's Go!

Week 1 - God owns everything and he provides generously. I'm his money manager.

Day 1 – Whose stuff is it anyway?

### \*Scripture to read:

Psalm 24:1-2

 ${}^{1}$ The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,

the world and those who dwell therein,

<sup>2</sup> for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

# Psalm 50:10-11

<sup>10</sup> For every beast of the forest is mine,

the cattle on a thousand hills.

<sup>11</sup>I know all the birds of the hills,

and all that moves in the field is mine.

### Haggai 2:8

<sup>a</sup> 'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the Lord Almighty.

### \*Questions to answer:

- As a default, do you think of money and possessions as 'yours' or God's?
- If God is the owner, what should be your logical attitude concerning the use of money and possessions?

\***Prayer to pray**: "Lord, please change my heart to see clearly that you are the owner of all things, and that I own nothing. Amen."

### Day 2 – Recognizing the source of money and possessions.

#### \*Scripture to read:

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

<sup>17</sup> Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.' <sup>18</sup> You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth..."

### John 3:27

"...A person can receive only what is given them from heaven."

### \*Questions to answer:

- Do you recognize that God has provided you the skills, intellect and opportunities to create wealth?
- Do you agree with John the Baptist in his statement from John 3? Are there exceptions to his 'all-inclusive' proposition? If so, what are the exceptions?

\***Prayer to pray**: "Lord, rescue me from the 'pride of ownership'. I am merely the creature who receives, you are the Creator who provides! Amen."

### Day 3 – Recognizing the promise and reality of God's provision.

### \*Scripture to read

### Matthew 6:26, 30

<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
<sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

### Philippians 4:19-20

<sup>19</sup> And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. <sup>20</sup> To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

### \*Questions to answer:

- Has God ever failed to provide for your needs?
- Do you currently have 'way more' than you need? If so, what do you plan to with the surplus?
- What's the difference between needs and 'wants'?

\***Prayer to pray:** "Lord, thank you for providing for my needs, always. Please remind me to use 'surplus' for your Kingdom. Amen."

# Day 4 – Cultivating a heart of contentment

### \*Scripture to read

<u>Hebrews 13:5</u>

5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for God has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

### Philippians 4:19-20

<sup>12</sup> I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup> I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

### \*Questions to answer:

- Are you content with the money and possessions that you have? If so, why? If not, why not? How much more will it take to bring contentment?
- Are money and possessions idols in your heart, or, to ask another way, do you think about money and possessions more frequently than you think about the goodness of God?

\***Prayer to pray**: "Lord, you are my contentment. Please turn my heart back to you when I gravitate toward the false gods of money and possessions. Amen."

# Day 5 – How I benefit from managing God's money (And how I experience loss from refusing).

### \*Scripture to read

Matthew 25:14-30 – Use your own Bible to read this story from Jesus.

### \*Questions to answer:

- Whose talents (monetary units) were the servants charged with investing?
- What benefits resulted from obeying the command to invest?
- What happened to the one who refused the command to invest?
- What applications can you draw from Jesus' story about 'Faithful fiscal responsibility'?

\***Prayer to pray:** "Lord, remind me, often, that you are the owner and I am the manager. Remind me, often, that I am to invest your money in things that you are passionate about. Amen."