

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

BLESSED III

The Money Multiplier

April 17, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Call on Easter – Every year hundreds of people come forward to make a decision for Christ over the Easter weekend. This year we're expecting well over 400 people and we could really use your help! If you're able to pray out loud for a group, you're equipped to help out for Easter. Friday, Saturday and the Sunday 10a & 12p will be the services that we need the most help. The services are as follows:

- Fri April 22 7pm

- Sat April 23 5pm & 7pm

- Sunday April 24 8am, 10am, 12pm, 5pm, & 7pm

If you're able to help over the Easter weekend, please email Joyce Crittenden at

joyce.crittenden@therocksandiego.org and she will send you over a brief informational email for all volunteers.

MEMORY VERSES

“When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing.” (Luke 9:11 ESV)

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Getting Started

1. Review the 3 points of “The Money Multiplier” as listed in the lesson plan:
 1. Resources must be **blessed** before they are multiplied.
 2. Resources must be **given** away before they are multiplied.
 3. Resources are multiplied to the **degree** they are given away.
2. What does your giving look like compared to your spending? Are you typically generous with your resources, or is giving tough for you to do?

Digging Deeper

Pastor Miles used Luke 9:10-17 as the focus text from sermon on Sunday. This study will focus primarily on verse 11, and how we tie in discipleship with our giving.

For starters the word *followed* in the Greek, *akoloutho*, is translated to “accompany, or come after”. The New Testament usage of this particular verb is reserved for a disciple of Christ alone. The Old Testament understanding of this same verb would have referred to those that chased after false idols (cf. Judg. 2:12; Dt. 4:3; and Jer. 11:10, etc.) and in book of Hosea it referred to adultery (cf. Hos. 1:2; 2:7, 13). We see complete opposite usages of what it means to *follow* something: **A.** Commit idolatry and follow after false gods in this present life or **B.** Follow the fullness of the person and work of Jesus in this present life to preach the gospel in any way possible, even financially.

- A.** In Judges 2:12 when the author states, “they *went* after other gods” it was used in conjunction with the creeping of a snake (cf. Gen. 7:18), or the flowing of water (cf. Gen. 2:14). In other words it is a smooth persistent following or travel. It is subtle in the fact you don’t even realize it is happening.
 - B.** We as Christians are called to submit to all aspects of Jesus’ person hood (fully man) and divinity (fully God). This revelation of who he is and how he is still active is revealed to us through the four gospel accounts, and practiced by the example and ministry of the Holy Spirit through the remainder of the New Testament. This discipleship brings participation in salvation (cf. mark 10:17; Luke 9:61-62, etc.) and in suffering (cf. Matt. 8:19-20; Mark 8:34; and John 12:25-26).
1. Idolatry manifests itself in many and often subtle ways. In your possessions, time, and talents, how do you see idolatry in any of these categories?
 2. Based on the paragraph description above, how would reconcile discipleship to your stewardship? What are some current evidences of proper stewardship, and what are some examples of poor stewardship?
 - Reflect on the passages from last week in Matt. 6:19-24, specifically v. 24; “You cannot serve God and money.”
 3. Using the verses listed in point B above, how would you discern if you are a disciple of Jesus or not? What changes do you think need to occur to become a better follower of Christ in all aspects of your life? Think terms of time, talent and treasure.

Check out the following books as a helpful tool for handling money biblically for the best deals:

Money: God or Gift, by Jamie Munson

<http://www.amazon.com/Money-God-Gift-Jamie-Munson/dp/B00481JN6Y>

The Treasure Principle, by Randy Alcorn

<http://www.epm.org/store/product/treasure-principle/>