GROUP GUIDE

ROOTED WEEK 7 | HOW DOES GOD VIEW MONEY?

WELCOME & ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

Welcome to Week 7! As you enter the seventh week of your Rooted experience, open with prayer, acknowledging God's presence. After your prayer, begin with an icebreaker question. (See <u>icebreaker handout</u> in shared folder for ideas.)

SHARE STORIES (15 MINUTES).

Have the two people you assigned to share their story do so tonight. Give them 3-5 minutes worth of time. They can use the "My Story" card as an outline.

Once one person has shared their story, thank them for sl "God, thank you for your unfolding story in	haring and invite the group to speak aloud together this prayer, life." Repeat this for the next person who shares their
story.	
Before moving on, ask for two more people to share their	story the following week.
Two people for next week: and	

INTRODUCE TOPIC & TRANSITION TO DISCUSSION (10 MINUTES)

Briefly introduce the topic for tonight's discussion (consider inviting someone to read the introduction paragraph from this week's daily work included below).

This week in Rooted we are asked and answered the question, "How Does God View Money?" This week was all about aligning our view of money with God's as we considered what steps He might ask us to take as we looked to place deeper trust in Him to provide for our needs and as we act in faith by living generously.

- What was your understanding of money when you were a child?
- How did your experience of money growing up shape your understanding and approach to your own finances?

DISCUSS ROOTED WEEK 7 DEVOTIONS (30-40 minutes)

A couple tips as you get into this part of the discussion: (1) Bring your Bible and encourage your group to do so, as well. Guide discussions around God's word; (2) Encourage conversation: "Has anyone else experienced anything like that? What was that like?" and (3) Utilize the questions on the last page of this guide in case you need other ideas of what to ask!

Reflect on the following questions:

- What word would you use to describe your relationship to finances? Anxious? Stressful? Apathetic? Joyful? Explain your word choice for your group.
- Why do you think financial stress is such a prevalent problem for Americans?

- Dan's videos from this week talked about Triple A (ie.: Attitude, Actions, and Accountability). How would you
 describe your current attitude towards money and finances?
- In what ways do your current financial choices reflect or fall short of God's desires for how you steward money?
- What is the hardest barrier for you to overcome when it comes to trusting God 100% with your finances?
- Why is it so easy to place trust in ourselves when it comes to our bank accounts rather than trusting God?
- How do you view the spiritual practice of tithing and what feelings or challenges arise for you when the church invites you to give generously?
- What have you learned this week when it comes to honoring God with your finances? What next step do you think God has asked you to take?
- Memory verse: What does this mean to you? Did it affect you in any way this week?

REVIEW NECESSARY LOGISTICS (5 minutes)

- Instruct your group to complete their Week 8 devotions covering, "Your Story and the Church" and to learn their new memory verse.
- Remind your group about the Moneywise class The Creek offers.

CLOSE WITH PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

Close your time together in prayer. As you pray, ask God to show you where you can grow in generosity—whether through your time, resources, or love for others. Encourage everyone to reflect silently for a moment, then lead or invite someone to lead a prayer asking for God's help to become more generous in these ways.

NOTE TO FACILITATORS:

- Proceed with caution if you are placed in a situation where someone is asking you for financial coaching or
 advice. Even if you are a financial professional, it would be unwise to establish a dual relationship with a member
 of the life group if it can be avoided.
- In the past, some people have witnessed the mishandling of funds in a church, which can understandably shape their views on stewardship. If anyone in your group has concerns or questions about how The Creek manages its resources, we encourage you to reach out to our staff. We will gladly connect you with our pastors and elders, who can share more about the leadership's approach to stewardship.

