



For Group Discussion

Week 2 - Bondage Keeps Us From Doing Great Things For God

CONNECT

What could you do if you were completely debt free? Dream BIG! How would your attitude, your behaviors, and your relationships with God and others look different?

ENGAGE

Larry Burkett, author of *Debt-Free Living*, states that the debt-ridden state of our world is a symptom of a society no longer willing to follow God's direction. Read Proverbs 21:20b, Proverbs 21:5, Proverbs 27:23-24, and Proverbs 3:9-10. What specific direction have we received by God?

Which of these areas, for which God provides us clear direction, is most challenging? Why?

How likely are you to consider making the commitment to God and yourself to get out of debt? What are some small steps you might consider taking to and who could you ask to hold you accountable to that commitment?

REFLECT

The Bible teaches emphatically that each of us should tithe the first 10% of our income back to God. Our first fruits belong to God. Barry Cameron, author of *ABC's of Financial Freedom*, even goes on to say that, "If we're not doing that, we'll never get out of debt." What are God's promises to us when we put Him first?

Where would you consider starting? What are the first things that come to your mind when you think about cutting expenses? What are the things that come to mind that you have, but could sell in order to eliminate debt?

APPLY

God, You erased the debt of my sin. Help me to trust you to erase my financial debt. I know that I can only do it with your help, so I acknowledge my need for You, for your guidance, your wisdom, and your direction in this area of my life. Help me, Lord, to embrace and follow the wisdom you have given me. I will need strength and self-control. I thank you in advance for the freedom that I will experience. I want to give you my first and best, God! I want to be wise in saving so that "emergencies" don't send me further into debt. I proclaim my trust in you to meet all my needs. Amen.