



JESUS & MONEY WEEK OF MAR 9

READING ASSIGNMENT

This week, we will read selections from two different books. The first selection is pages 19-30 in *Master Your Money* by Ron Blue. The second is pages 215-218 from *Following the Master* by Michael J. Wilkins. The PDF for both readings is available on our website at rockypeak.org/disciple. If you prefer a hard copy, you can pick one up at Starting Point on the patio of the Worship Center during weekend services. You can also access the reading by scanning the QR code here.



GETTING STARTED

This weekend, we looked at Jesus' teaching on the topic of money. We learned that what we treasure reveals where our heart is and that God's primary concern for our lives is that our heart belongs to Him. Read and reflect on the following passage:

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Matthew 6:24

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Becoming a disciple of Jesus means that we listen and follow Him when it comes to our finances. Reflect on your personal history, upbringing, and formation around the topic of money. How was money treated, valued, and talked about in your family growing up?
2. This weekend, Michael taught us that *Money Is A Great Competitor*. Read Jesus' teaching in **Matthew 6:19-24**. In your walk with Jesus, has there ever been a time when the Holy Spirit led you to a new level of surrender in terms of your finances? If so, what did that look like?
3. Jesus taught us about the reality of the next life and how important it is that we invest wisely for the coming age. Read **1 Timothy 6:17-19**.
 - a. How do you remind yourself to have a long-term mindset in your daily walk?

- b. What are some practical ways we can live out verse 18 in our lives today?
4. God uses money as a test to reveal whether we are serious about following Jesus and becoming His disciples. This test includes the way we make it, spend it, give it, save it, and invest it. Read **Luke 16:10-13**.
- a. Is there an area of your finances that God is currently testing you in?
- b. When it comes to being a good steward of your finances, what are some things that help keep you on track? Is there something that works for you that might be helpful for others to hear?
5. In this week's first reading assignment, *Master Your Money*, on pages 19-29, Ron Blue shares *Four Biblical Principles of Money Management*:
1. *God Owns It All*
 2. *We Are In A Growth Process*
 3. *The Amount Is Not Important*
 4. *Faith Requires Action*
- a. Which principle is God teaching you about as you read this chapter? What is He showing you?
6. In *Following the Master*, on page 216, Michael J. Wilkins says:
- Possessions all too often become one's source of security, one's badge of self-worth, one's means of personal power. Jesus commands his followers to find their security, self-worth, and power in him. They must count the cost of what such a wholehearted commitment to Jesus requires.*
- If a person desires to become a disciple of Jesus, it will cost much in terms of undivided allegiance to Jesus as God (Lk 14:26), in terms of denial of one's own will for the sake of taking up the will of God (v. 27) and in terms of abandonment of personal resourcefulness for the resources one obtains as a disciple of Jesus (v. 33).*
- Nothing else must be a substitute for Jesus as the focus of allegiance: neither family (v. 26), nor wealth (12:13-21; 16:10-13, 14-15, 19-31), nor one's own life (14:26), nor anything at all (v. 33). Entrance into the way of discipleship means entering the narrow gate to salvation 13:22-30) to follow after Jesus alone (9:23; 14:27).*
- a. Have you ever considered the financial cost of giving your "undivided allegiance" to Jesus alone? Explain.
- b. What might it cost you as you think about your future? What might you gain?
7. Michael closed his message with one key question: *Have You Surrendered ... Your Finances?*
- a. What emotions come up when you think about this idea of surrendering your money to God? What might be holding you back from doing so?
- b. Read **Luke 12:22-34**. How does this passage reveal God's heart for you and address any hesitations you may have about surrendering this area to Him?