



4-Week Series

FEATURED CURRICULUM

Teen Lesson Handouts

Church Instructions and Overview

These Teen Lesson Handouts are designed to support the corresponding sermon outline topics presented by the pastor during the Road to Financial Freedom sermon series. When used during teen group time before or after the pastor's sermon, these lessons will reinforce what is being taught during the churchwide service.

Photocopying/Printing Guidelines

By accepting the agreement below when you purchased these Lesson Handouts, your church agrees to photocopy/print no more than the exact number of copies that you purchased. So that your church does not violate the agreement, we suggest that one church staff member be solely responsible for making copies of this curriculum.

As you may know, copyright violations are prevalent in many churches today. **Making more copies than you purchased is a sin, plain and simple, and constitutes an act of theft.** We sincerely want God to bless your series to teach people His way of handling money, so we hope that your church will maintain integrity related to this issue.

If you need to make more copies of this curriculum above the number originally purchased, go to Crown.org/RTFF and purchase more copies. Crown's Web site is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The purchaser is bound to proper use and dissemination of downloaded files pursuant to Crown Financial Ministries' Download Legal Agreement. Please review the full text of the Agreement at this address: www.Crown.org/dlLegalAgreement.

Supporting Resources

We recommend promoting your series several weeks ahead of time. A promotional video and promotional artwork have been provided to help you promote your church's Road to Financial Freedom Series. Poster and bulletin insert artwork is provided, as well as custom artwork to create your own custom promotional items such as banners, overhead projection artwork, bookmarks, tickets, postcards, door hangers, and more. Consult your Series CD for more information.



Separating God's Responsibilities from Ours

Welcome to the Road to Financial Freedom!

How important is money to you?

You probably don't care about getting rich; you just want enough to do the things you want to do. As you discover the high cost of many of the things you want to do, however, money becomes much more important to you. But you never want it to dominate your life or become an obsession, right?

This four-week study will help you avoid mistakes that have trapped others—some for their whole lives. It will put you on a path to freedom that few people today are able to enjoy: to go extreme into every adventure God puts in your heart!

Are you growing or plateauing? Growing people choose to:

- Use time productively.
- Learn constantly—from anyone at any time.
- Be engaged, working to improve a process rather than simply criticize it.
- Take notes, both to clarify and to recall.

We encourage you to engage and record your thoughts.

This Week's Introduction

Holding unexamined beliefs is common. It is also harmless if the consequences for being wrong are not serious. But what about really important issues—the kind that affect everything we think and do?

Consider this one: God exists, and I am not Him. We all believe that, right? But we often live as though He didn't exist. We take on the weight of responsibilities that we were not designed to carry. We feel a need to be in control. We fear we'll never get what we need and want if we simply go God's way.

This is nothing new. Satan, the deceiver, convinced Eve that God was holding out on her (See Genesis 3:1-5).

Eve bought the lie, and we've been buying it ever since. Every time we confuse our role with God's, shifting His responsibilities onto ourselves, we violate His design and invite heartache and defeat.

Our only hope for seeing through Satan's deceptions is to know and obey what God's Word says. Over 2,350 verses dealing with money and possessions give us clear direction regarding His plan and our role in it. First, let's look at His responsibilities.

God's Responsibilities

1. Ownership

God is the o_____. *"The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains"* (Psalm 24:1). He created and sustains everything by the power of His Word.

Even your own b_____ belongs to Him. *"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body"* (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Discuss: We can't enjoy what we don't own. True or False? Why?

2. Control

God is ultimately in c_____ of every event. *"We adore you as being in control of everything"* (1 Chronicles 29:11, TLB). *"I praised the Most High. . . . He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: 'What have you done?'"* (Daniel 4:34-35).

Nothing takes God by surprise. Nothing intimidates Him or paints Him in a corner. He takes even devastating circumstances and weaves them into His big picture for our ultimate good.

"And we know that God causes a _____ t _____ to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Discuss:

- When God and I disagree, what percentage of the time am I likely to be right?
 - Since His perspective is so much greater than mine, how can I adopt more of it?
-
-

3. Provision

God promises to p _____ for our needs. Jesus said, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things [food and clothing] will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33).

Discuss: Why is it so difficult to actually live this simple command?

Our finite minds cannot comprehend an infinite God. We find Him to be unpredictable. And He is unpredictable in the way He chooses to provide for us. But He is absolutely predictable in His faithfulness to provide.

Our Responsibilities

Our responsibilities can be summarized in one sentence. We are to f _____ m _____ everything God e _____ to us.

It is also clear that He will judge our performance. Revelation 20:13 describes a future scene: "... and each person was judged according to what he had done."

1 Corinthians 3:13-14 adds more detail: "... his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the q _____ of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss..."

What kind of standard does God use to judge our performance? "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove f _____" (1 Corinthians 4:2).

"He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the m_____ of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God" (1 Corinthians 4:5).

Never underestimate the importance of your faithfulness—even when you have very little. "Whoever can be trusted with very l_____ can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much" (Luke 16:10).

Discuss: Can you share a real-life example of this principle? What are the practical implications of both parts of this verse?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Can we really trust God to provide what we need? How?

2. Describe the most important principle you learned in this lesson.

3. How will applying this principle impact you?

PARTING THOUGHT

God, who is in **full control**, invites us to participate with Him in an unfolding plan that ends in **ultimate glory**.



Scripture to Memorize

"Everything in the heavens and earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as being in control of everything."

—1 Chronicles 29:11, TLB



In a Nutshell . . .

God:

1. Owns
2. Controls
3. Provides

We:

1. Manage faithfully
2. Trust with confidence
3. Live in grateful contentment



Start now managing your money by God's financial principles. Listen to Crown's daily radio programs—find a local station, listen online, or podcast at Crown.org.

SAMPLE

Additional Notes

Prayer Requests
