

Water of Life Community Church
LIVING BEYOND BLESSED
WEEK 1
PSALMS 24:1

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

ICE BREAKER

PRAYER

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

Peter Grandich, author of “Confessions of a Wall Street Whiz Kid” said, “I get my financial guidance from the Bible...The writers of the Bible anticipated the problems we would have with money and possessions; there are more than 2,000 references. ... Our whole culture now is built on the premise that we have to have more money and more stuff to feel happy and secure...We have too much stuff because we’ve bought into the myth fabricated by Wall Street and Madison Avenue that more stuff equals more happiness. That’s the total opposite of the truth, and the opposite of what it says in the Bible.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. READ PSALMS 24:1.

- a. When we read that the earth is the Lord’s, how does that make us feel about the things we have earned? Do we recognize that our stuff belongs to the Lord? Why or why not?
- b. Do we spend more time thanking God for what we have, or asking God for what we don’t have? Why?
- c. Do you figure in an amount in your budget for generosity? Other than your tithe, do you plan to have a little extra to give away? What would that look like?
- d. What will it take to live under your means? Are you willing to begin making changes to your financial planning to accomplish this?

2. READ MATTHEW 6:21.

- a. Money does not follow your heart, your heart follows your money. When is this true?
- b. Where do you want your heart to be? Is it possible to plant seeds of faith with your money right now that will grow your heart? Seeds can be small...

c. What can you invest in today that will begin to do something generous in your heart?

d. Do you sometimes think if you are generous to one thing, that you will need to be generous to everything? How can you choose what to give your time, money, and talents to?

3. READ 1 CHRONICLES 4:9-10.

a. Jabez asked God to bless him. Have you ever asked God to bless you? Why or why not? Have you ever asked God to bless you so you can bless someone else? Did you? What was that like?

b. If you want God to bless you to bless others, are you already blessing others? What is an example of someone being generous to you that had nothing to do with money? How did that make you feel?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- When you read Matthew 6:21, what can the people around you see about you when they know where your heart is? Does something need to change? Ask God.
- Ask God to bless you in an area where you are being generous to someone else. How can you be more generous?

GOING DEEPER/WEEKLY CHALLENGE

REFLECT

- Can you pray the prayer of Jabez this week and ask God to bless you so that you can be a blessing to others?

RESPOND

- How can you be generous to one person this week in a way you have not done before?

Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "e-devotional" to 67076; or go to wolgroups.com and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 6:21

"For where your treasure is there your heart will be also."

NOTES

