Break Free from Money's Grip

Proverbs 11:24-25 & others

The power of money

1. Money has the power to _____ your integrity. (Prov. 11:1)
(*cf. 20:10, 23; 2:16; 15:16; 16:8; 20:10, 23; 28:6; 1 Timothy 6:10*)

2. Money has the power to _____ your community. (Prov. 11:26)
(*cf. Prov. 1:19; 14:20; 22:16; 28:8; Matt 22:36-40*)

3. Money has the power to _____ you from the priority. (Prov. 11:4)
(*cf. Prov. 1:7; 9:10; 11:7; 22:4; 23:4-5; Jeremiah 9:23-24*)

4. Money has the power to _____ your _____. (Prov 11:28)
(*cf. Prov. 3:5-6; 23:4-5; 28:10-11; 30:8-9; Jeremiah 9:23-24*)

Breaking Free

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.
Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.
Proverbs 11:24-25 esv

MONEY LOSES ITS _____ WHEN WE _____ OURS!

(*cf. Prov. 3:9-10; 19:17; 22:4, 9; 28:27; Psalm 112:9; Luke 12:15; 2 Cor. 8:9; 9:6-14*

Group Discussion Questions

Title: **Break Free from Money's Grip** Key Verse: **Proverbs 11:24**
Big Idea: ***Money Loses Its Grip When We Loosen Ours!***

Note: *The goal of this discussion isn't simply to encourage use to give more. It's to help us see that money can quietly take God's place in our hearts.*

The Power of Money

1. Why do you think money has such a powerful influence over our lives, regardless of how much or how little we have? Why do you think it is often easier to talk about almost anything else in life than to talk honestly about money?

2. Money Can Corrupt Our Integrity – read Proverbs 11:1 & 1 Timothy 6:10.
   What are some subtle ways the desire for money can tempt us to compromise our integrity? Why is it sometimes difficult to recognize when money is influencing our decision?

3. Money Has the Power to Destroy Our Community — Read Proverbs 11:26 & Matt 22:36-40
   How can selfishness or greed damage our relationships and communities? What are some practical ways we can use our money to demonstrate love for others rather than simply benefit ourselves?

4. Money Can Distract Us from the Priority – Read Proverbs 11:4 & Proverbs 23:4-5.
   Why is it so easy to become consumed with earning, saving, or accumulating money? What are some things that matter eternally that we can neglect when money is our priority?

5. Money Can Steal Our Trust – Read Proverbs 11:28 & Proverbs 18:10-11.
   The sermon described how money can give us a false sense of security and significance. How do you see these two temptations playing out in our culture? How can we distinguish between being financially responsible and placing our trust in money rather than God?

Breaking Free from Money's Grip

6. Release Your Grip on Money – Read the key verses, Proverbs 11:24-25.
   These verses describe the surprising truth that those who give freely grow richer while those who withhold suffer want. How does this challenge the world's thinking about money? In what ways can generosity actually make us richer without necessarily increasing our financial wealth?

7. Let Christ Be Your Motivation – Read 2 Corinthians 8:9.
   How does understanding what Jesus willingly gave up for us change the way we view our possessions? Why is the generosity of Christ a greater motivation for giving that guilt, obligation, or the promise of receiving something in return?

8. Think about the sermon's big idea: ***Money Loses Its Grip When We Loosen Ours!*** What is one area where you recognize money may have too much influence over your life? What specific step of generosity could you take this week to demonstrate greater trust in God?

Closing Thought: *Remember, we don't become generous to earn God's grace; we become generous because we've experienced God's grace in Jesus Christ.*

Closing Prayer: As a group – 1) Spend significant time Praising the Lord for His generosity toward us, 2) Ask God to give us greater trust in Him with our giving, 3) Pray for one another.