



# wired for greatness

group leader's guide

Copyright © 2014 by Wesleyan Publishing House  
Published by Wesleyan Publishing House  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

This guide is to be used in conjunction with *Wired for Greatness Group Resource Kit* (Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2014).

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A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, wavy, translucent lines in shades of gray and white, creating a sense of movement and depth. The lines are centered at the top of the page and partially overlap the title.

## introduction

In preparation for leading a group, read through the group study guide (in the *Wired for Greatness Devotional Journal*) and preview this week's DVD teaching. Select questions you think will be best for your group and decide how you will lead through the prayer time. Make sure that all group members are in the communication loop regarding meeting time and place and other details (who is providing snacks, etc.). Also make sure that all group members have a *Wired for Greatness Devotional Journal*. Test whatever system you are using to play the DVD so that time is not wasted with tech issues during your group time.



# stewardship of self

## week 1

- **getting connected**

Start your group time with pizza this week. Don't rush through this section this week, especially if your group is together for the first time or together again after not meeting for a while.

- **dvd fill-in-the-blank answers**

God has **wired** you for **greatness**.

God **knows** you and made you with **great care**.

Stewardship is the **careful** and **responsible** management of something **entrusted** to one's care.

For those who have surrendered their lives to Christ, the "title" on you has been **transferred**.

Do you have an **intentional** plan to be the best manager of you that you can possibly be?

Being intentional about managing yourself under the **guidance** of the **Holy Spirit** is what separates a **good** life from a **great** life.

Not only do you need a plan and some goals, but you also need a good **coach**.

- **making it real**

This time of processing the content of the DVD and making personal application is vitally important. We have provided for you more discussion questions than you will probably have time to cover. You know your group and can best determine the questions that will lead to great discussion and transformation.

- **further exploring the Word**

This section is optional and provided if you have time or determine it is necessary to dig a little deeper into a passage that was part of the DVD teaching. Again, you know your group best and can discern whether or not to dive in to this section this week.

- **coming before God**

Really keep the prayer time focused. Make commitments to God and each other to intentionally pursue spiritual growth during the next few weeks.

- **reminder**

Encourage your group members to use the daily devotions in the Devotional Journal.



# stewardship of story

## week 2

- **getting connected**

Have fun sharing stories from your childhood. As the leader, share your story first to model for them. Be brief so that you don't spend half your time on sharing stories.

- **dvd fill-in-the-blank answers**

Throughout the New Testament, there are challenges and commands for us to **tell others** about Jesus.

Be **prepared** to tell others about the reason for the hope we have found.

God is able to take our deepest struggles and pains and give them **purpose** as they become a testimony to God's transforming power in us.

**Every** believer has a story to tell. God calls us to be good **stewards** of our stories. Stewardship is the **careful** and **responsible** management of something **entrusted** to one's care.

Template for sharing our own stories: **before**, **how**, and **now**.

- **Before:** What was your life like before entering into a relationship with Jesus?
- **How:** How did Jesus draw you into relationship with him?
- **Now:** What is your life like now that Jesus is in it?

Stories have a way of connecting our **hearts** like nothing else can!

Pray for the Holy Spirit to create for you **divine appointments** to share your story.

Don't underestimate the **power** of your story.

- **making it real**

It is perfectly appropriate to have some minutes of silence for your group members to outline their stories on their own (remember, some silence is OK). Make sure you actually share stories during your group time (don't just talk about doing it). You probably will have to divide your group into groups of two or three to have enough time for everyone to practice sharing their story.

- **further exploring the Word**

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- **coming before God**

Circle prayers are a great way for every person to be prayed for personally. Remember that the focus of the prayer time is for God to help your group members recognize and act on opportunities to share their story.

- **reminder**

Encourage your group members to use the daily devotions in the Devotional Journal.



## stewardship of relationships week 3

- **getting connected**

Make sure you check in with each other regarding opportunities you've had over the last week to share stories, reinforcing the challenge from the previous week's meeting brings both continuity and accountability to your group.

- **dvd fill-in-the-blank answers**

God has **hard wired** us for healthy relationships, first with **him** and then with **others**. Stewardship is the **careful** and **responsible** management of something **entrusted** to one's care.

**Isolation** and **selfishness** can be like termites in wood when it comes to our relationships. They **destroy** them over time.

God's **design** for our relationships is not always to make us **happy**, but to **shape** us to be more like **him**.

Jesus and his disciples lay out several "**one another**" passages to help us **navigate** through our relationships **God's way**.

Three of them are:

- "**Love** one another."
- "Build up and **encourage** one another."
- "**Serve** one another."

- **making it real**

This week's discussion questions get personal very quickly. As the leader, be sensitive to the relational challenges people share. Also, this is a discussion that could be consumed by one person's struggles. Prayerfully discern how much time to devote to one person. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit to pause for prayer in the midst of the discussion time.

- **further exploring the Word**

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- **coming before God**

Let people's sharing during the discussion time be your guide in praying for one another. An additional time of sharing requests probably is not necessary.

- **reminder**

Give your group the "assignment" of completing a spiritual gifts assessment. Next week's session is dependent on everyone in the group coming prepared with an awareness of their top spiritual gifts. Your church may have a certain assessment available for your group to use or information for an appropriate one.



# stewardship of gifts

## week 4

- **getting connected**

The activity for getting connected is making a pizza together. You know how that may or may not work for your group. One way of doing it is to have the crust and sauce ready when your group arrives and then finish the process together. Maybe you want to text or e-mail your group members to bring toppings with them. You don't have to do a traditional pizza. You could try making a fruit pizza with each group member bringing their favorite fruit to contribute.

- **dvd fill-in-the-blank answers**

The church will operate at its **best** when you blend all of the gifts together to do what God has called you to do.

Stewardship is the **careful** and **responsible** management of something **entrusted** to one's care.

Each of us has **different** gifts according to the **grace** of God given to each of us.

God gave you your gifts for a **purpose**. You were wired to make a great impact in this world as you learn to **operate** within your gift **zone**.

It is important to know what the **spiritual** gifts are.

When we use our gifts, we become administrators of God's **grace**.

Everyone has something to **contribute**.

- **making it real**

It is important for you to process people's thoughts about their spiritual gifts. Spiritual gifts discoveries are most meaningful when processed with others and not done in isolation. If group members are already serving in ministry, process if their current area of service is a good fit based on their spiritual gifts. If group members are not serving, help them figure out what is holding them back and what areas of service might work for them. Again, keep coming back to the truth that serving and using our gifts in ministry is a heart issue and that God uses broken, less-than-perfect people in ministry.

- **further exploring the Word**

This section is optional and provided if you have time or determine it is necessary to dig a little deeper into a passage that was part of the DVD teaching. Again, you know your group best and can discern whether or not to dive in to this section this week.

- **coming before God**

Do your best to manage your group time so that prayer is not rushed at the end. Pray ahead of time of how you will structure the prayer time this week and following the leading of the Holy Spirit.

- **reminder**

Encourage your group members to use the daily devotions in the Devotional Journal.



# stewardship of time

## week 5

- **getting connected**

Have the group think about the last twenty-four hours. Allow a few minutes to bullet point what they've done and process what that says about their priorities. Don't feel like you have to resolve anything. This activity is meant to get people thinking and further processing will happen after the video.

- **dvd fill-in-the-blank answers**

Stewardship is the **careful** and **responsible** management of something **entrusted** to one's care.

Every day we are given **86,400** seconds to use.

We cannot **store** up more time. Time is a **finite** commodity in our lives.

There is not **enough** time to do everything.

1. **Examine** your life. Examine how you spend your time.
2. Be **different** from the world. Our number one priority needs to be carving out time to seek the Lord's wisdom and instruction.
3. **Prioritize** your time. God's kingdom activity and the righteousness of God changing us should be our leading priorities.

4. Understand God's **will**. God designed you for regular rhythms of rest.

God has wired you to be a great **manager** of time!

- **making it real**

Challenge your group members to do a time log in the coming week, especially for those who have never done one before, it is a very helpful exercise to get a reality check on priorities, time wasters, etc.

- **further exploring the Word**

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- **coming before God**

Come prepared with index cards for group members to write down their requests and share with another person.

- **reminder**

Encourage your group members to use the daily devotions in the Devotional Journal.



# stewardship of money

## week 6

- **getting connected**

Give your group members opportunity to reflect on the time inventory exercise before jumping into this week's topic. Invite people to share their insights.

- **dvd fill-in-the-blank answers**

All of our stuff **belongs** to God.

Stewardship is the **careful** and **responsible** management of something **entrusted** to one's care.

You were wired by God to be a great manager of **money** and **possessions**.

“For where your **treasure** is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:21).

Three conversions Martin Luther says a person must experience: the **head**, the **heart**, and the **pocketbook**.

Parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14–30:

1. Everyone does not get the **same size** “pizza” to manage.
2. There is a **reward** for those who manage God's stuff well.

Biblically two ways to look at teaching on giving resources back to God:

- Old Testament—First **10 percent** going back to God (tithe)
- New Testament—**Sacrificial** giving
- You can tell what is **important** to someone by how they spend their money.

3. There seems to be **consequences** for being a poor manager of God’s “pizza.”

- **making it real**

This topic really gets people outside their comfort zones, but that does not mean we shouldn’t go there. As you engage in discussion with your group, make sure you don’t just skim the surface of the topic by talking in generalities. Some will inevitably resist getting too personal on this topic, but do your best to create an atmosphere in which people can share honestly and openly without fear of being judged. If group members reveal a real struggle with financial stewardship, encourage them to utilize the resources your church offers.

- **further exploring the Word**

This section is optional and provided if you have time or determine it is necessary to dig a little deeper into a passage that was part of the DVD teaching. Again, you know your group best and can discern whether or not to dive in to this section this week.

- **coming before God**

Pair up for prayer time so that people may be more honest about their prayer requests regarding finances. Generally, people will feel more willing to share with one person instead of the whole group.

- **reminder**

Clearly communicate with your group what you are doing as a follow-up to this series. Make sure you have a plan for your next study.