

# Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

## Trust - Part 2

Dale Stephenson

### Introduction

In the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), Jesus teaches the importance of stewarding our financial resources well. As believers, we understand that money comes from God, and we need to be intentional in how we use it. If we are not careful we can fall into the trap of wanting more and more, to the point that we work for money instead of making money work for us.

### Read

1 Timothy 6:9-11, Matthew 6:24

### Discuss

1. What do you think are some of the characteristics of a person who loves money? Do you think they are aware of their love of money? Discuss.
2. Read Proverbs 21:20. It is a biblical principle to spend less than you earn, and Pastor Dale teaches the important of creating a financial buffer to make space for life's uncertainties. If someone was to look at your bank account, what would your spending habits say about you? Would it match your core values?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 5:10. We live in a society where people often think they will be happier and more content if they have more money. What does the verse say about that notion? What are some challenges that make it harder to think biblically about money?
4. We have to be able to make money work for us, instead of us working for money. Pastor Dale reminds us that risk is involved when we want to make money work for us. What is your attitude towards financial risk? Identify some variables that could blind us from seeing some risks.

*(continued on next page)*

5. Read Ecclesiastes 5:13, 18-20. As we give, save and build our God-given financial resources, spending is part of the process. Pastor Dale added that it should be fun. What is the difference between this biblical principle of spending, and reckless spending?
6. What will you do differently in your personal and/or family finances after hearing and discussing this?

### **Respond**

We need be the master of our money, not the other way around. We all have needs - go around the group and lift up each others' financial needs. Have everyone pick one of the four principles that Pastor Dale taught on: **Give, Save, Build, Spend**, as an area in which they want to grow in Spirit. Commit to a specific goal you want to accomplish over the next few weeks.