

Your New Money Mindset: Create a Healthy Relationship With Money

Session Three Outline: Ready

Key Understandings from the First Paragraph

- a) Review the story that resulted in Kurt calling Brad "greedy & selfish." Who do you relate to in this paragraph?
- b) Who do you know that is gracious and generous that can say this to you resulting in a powerful impact?
- c) The words Kurt spoke evoked (triggered) a long process of examination Brad's attitude about money and possessions.

Struggling Forward

- a) Most of us need prompting to think through our relationship with money.
- b) Our thoughts and feelings impact our ability to be generous with all we have and are.
- c) Concrete struggles indicate those things which challenge us in "giving first."
 - 1. Emergency Savings
 - 2. College Tuition Payments
 - 3. Rewarding myself after getting that special job
 - 4. Issues regarding my residence
 - 5. Family expenses & needs
 - 6. It's someone else's turn to be generous, I don't have enough
 - 7. I'm scared about my lack...
 - 8. I teeter on the edge of bankruptcy
 - 9. I don't know how long I'll be healthy enough to work
- d) We might assume that a healthy money relationship requires having our financial house in perfect order.

- e) Wise planning eases some of the tension people feel about money, but it isn't enough.
- f) Even the most astute among us never reach a point where we don't regularly face crucial money decisions.
- g) Even as we address our concerns, issues, and struggles, we can still develop a thriving relationship with money, we don't have to be perfect to enjoy peace.
- h) Consumer debt eats away at us like cancer, but some solutions to destructive forms of debt can fuel the underlying problem.
- i) Any solution that offers a "quick fix" to an entrenched problem reflects the consumer myth that we can have what we want when we want it.
- j) Any approach that subtracts something from our life without adding a better substitute just creates a craving for more.
- k) Something inside you should say "this just doesn't add up." You should understand you need to change-the answer is "**Just add more Good stuff.**"
- l) Lead with more generosity grounded in grace.
- m) Focus on giving.
- n) Develop an "open-hearted life."

The New Money Mindset Assessment

- a) Real change begins within.
- b) This tool gives you insight into your own thinking.
- c) It isn't about how much money you have or don't have, but how you perceive your relationship with money.
- d) The assessment will help us gain our own perspective.
- e) The assessment is one of the most thorough and accurate assessments of a Christian's relationship with money the authors know of.
- f) The assessment consists of 48 statements and determine where you are currently in the areas of Continuums titled (1) Freedom, (2) Community, (3) Contentment, and (4) Calling.

g) The results of the assessment can help you discover how to improve your money mindset scores in the rest of the book.

Taking the Assessment

a) Keep the following things in mind as you take the assessment:

1. don't spend too much time on one item
2. Go with your first response
3. Complete all the items
4. If at all possible, take the assessment in a quiet place
5. Be honest with yourself

b) Have fun!

c) Use the results to help you evaluate your strengths and challenges.

d) Show your results to someone that knows you well and see if that person agrees with your discoveries.

e) Whatever your context, it should lead to some truly helpful insights for you.

After the Assessment

a) Print.

b) Your score and other feedback will help you look inside yourself to better understand how you view money, generosity, and the impact of your faith on both.

c) Your results will give you clarity about your own next steps, detailing your strengths along with areas where you can grow into a new money mindset.

d) Your responses to the statements in the assessment will help you explore the heart of this book.

e) You will find four-chapter pairs (4 and 5; 6 and 7; 8 and 9, 10 and 11) with each pair looks more deeply at our natural human longings as well as at new ways of thinking that equip us for a better relationship with money.

Your New Money Mindset Adventure

- a) The process of growing an openhearted life brings both struggles and victories. But it's an adventure we undertake in faith.
 - b) Review the story of "The Subway Samaritan."
 - c) As the "Subway Samaritan" lived out his God-appointed mission, he trusted that voice that told him "You can do this. You are going to be okay."
 - d) God calls us to an adventure that can feel terrifyingly risky, growing into a new money mindset requires trusting God for our financial and personal well-being.
 - e) He beckons us to a place of freedom, community, contentment, and calling.
 - f) To each of us He says, "You can do this. You are going to be okay."
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This Week's Takeaways & Key Points

- a) Our money mindset transformation empowers us to be done with the consumer mentality that says we always need more when we already have enough.
- b) As adopted children of our generous God, we indeed already have more than we need.
- c) Many of us often follow similar patterns with our life & financial journeys.
- d) Shifting our mindset starts with our hearts, through learning and targeted intention to grow in the area of finance, we can emerge as great stewards of our money.

Homework-Study Questions for February 12, 2020

1. How do you distinguish between a want and a need?
2. When have you lacked something you considered necessary for your happiness?
3. How do you define success? How prominent is money in your definition?
4. What does it mean that you are "blessed to be a blessing?"
5. How has your money mindset changed since you began this book?