

Small Group Notes

Date - 15th Jan 2023 (Staines) / 22nd Jan 2023 (Feltham)

Sermon series - Flourish

Talk title - Finance for Life

Speaker - Rob Winmill

Welcome

How are you doing?

How have you seen Jesus at work in your life this week?

Worship

Start by spending some time in worship together. If you have someone who can play a guitar or another instrument, ask if they will lead your group in some live worship or choose a couple songs to help lead people into God's presence. Otherwise we have compiled a couple of playlists with a range of songs for you to use during worship and ministry.

[Sunday Morning Spotify playlist](#)

[Sunday Morning Youtube playlist](#)

Bible

Bible Text -Matt 6:25-34

Read bible text together

One sentence talk summary - One of the primary ways we can flourish in life is by committing our finances to Him.

the best financial life is only possible in Jesus

Question: in your finances, are you full of fear & worry or are you full of Jesus?

Main talk points

We can learn to flourish in our financial life when we:

- Do not worry (v25-31)
- Trust in a God who knows exactly what we need (v32)
- Put God first (v33)

Questions for application

- For those there, what did Jesus say to you? (*personal*)
- We often find ourselves worrying about things that MIGHT happen. What do you do to take Jesus at his word, and to stop yourself from worrying?
- *Rob shared 3 steps to help us manage our worry and anxiety better*

i) **Notice** when you're anxious and get off 'the anxiety treadmill' rather than pushing on.

ii) **Pause** to name what is causing the anxiety.

iii) **Diffuse** anxiety with a life giving habit.

- Which of these do you need to press into?
- What kind of life giving habits could help you this week?

Giving is such an important part of discipleship - when we give we acknowledge that we trust in a God who knows exactly what we need.

- In what areas of life do you find yourself relying upon yourself rather than God?

If you've not taken a step towards giving.....

- If you've never given BEGIN to give
 - If you give sporadically, give REGULARLY
 - If you give regularly, BEGIN to tithe
 - If you tithe, give EXTRAVAGANTLY
- What step could you take today?
 - In what ways can we put God first in our lives - to seek his kingdom and his righteousness?

What themes has this session brought up?

Bring these to the Lord as we head into ministry?

NB There may be people worried about their finances. A helpful approach is to 'pray and refer'. Pray for them, and point them towards further help. If people need help through Storehouse, you can refer them using the referral form available on www.riversidevineyard.com/storehouse www.riversidevineyard.com/money is another helpful resource

Prayer ministry

Spend time praying for each other. The goal here is not to simply intercede for one another, we believe that the Holy Spirit is present and ready to bring change and healing today!

Pray for those who are worrying about their finances.

Pray for those who long to do something to help those around them.

The following model is based on how Jesus prayed for people. It's not a formula but a model we've found extremely helpful. As we demonstrate it, others will "catch it".

There are 3 simple steps: **ASK – PRAY - ASK**

- i) **ASK** – ask the person what they're asking Jesus to do for them

- And ASK the Holy Spirit what He is wanting to do
- ii) **PRAY** – like Jesus did, pray your best prayers
 - iii) **ASK** – what’s happening? If the pain was a 10 out of 10 when they walked in tonight, ask them what they would score the pain now? What are the next steps? Thank God and ask for more. You may find it helpful to go through these steps 2-3 times.

Pray for others with your eyes open - we want to see what God is doing and respond accordingly.

To ponder or pray about this week...

What one thing will you do differently this week as a result of what you’ve been talking about today?

How to Hear God series

At the beginning of his talk, Rob shared about HOSTing a group for our upcoming series - How to hear God. Are there people in your group who could HOST a new group for 5 weeks

HOST stands for:

H - Have a heart for people

O - Open up a space - your home, online, a room at the church centre

S - Serve a snack

T - Turn on a TV

We will provide all the materials including videos and notes.

People may have led a group - either here or at another church

Maybe your group has been growing & it’s hard for new people to join?

Maybe there are people in your group who have never led a group and would love to give it a go?

You can point people towards www.riversidevineyard.com/heargod to find out more.