

# NewSpring Church Groups Guide

## 5 Lies of the Devil — Lie #2 — NewSpring Just Wants Your Money

It's easy to say up front that we want to follow Christ in every area of our life, but when it comes to money, are we serious? We cannot say that we are fully devoted followers of Jesus if we are not surrendered to him in our finances. Tonight we talk about the second lie that the devil uses to twist our understanding of who God is and what he wants for our life.

Based on previous experience with fallen pastors who have embezzled money or televangelists who promise prosperity if we will “sow a seed” into their ministry, there is a mistrust among many about the local church and their call for members to give tithes and offerings. Could it be that most churches want what is best for you in your relationship with God? At the heart of NewSpring's efforts to see you give is a genuine desire to see God glorified, you matured in your faith, and the Kingdom advanced through ministry. Hopefully, tonight as we jump into some questions you will have an opportunity to be grown in your understanding of giving and your heart will be stirred to be more effective in your finances.

- Can you think of a commercial on T.V. that pushes the idea that you deserve more than what you have? Why are we so dissatisfied with what we have? How is it that we lose touch with how blessed we are?
- Matthew 6:24 says that we can't serve God and money. How does withholding tithes and offerings reveal idolatry in someone's life? Why do some people think that money and Jesus are completely separate issues?
- Luke 16:10-12 says, “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?” How does this apply to your personal finances? What are “true riches”?
- King David was told to build an altar to make sacrifices to the Lord. A generous man who lived there offered to give David all the animals for the sacrifice. How generous! We find David's reply in 2 Samuel 24:24, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” SO...what are the reasons people want to follow Christ without cost? (Luke 9:57-62)

II Corinthians 9:15 says, “Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” God's indescribable gift is salvation through Jesus Christ. In view of his mercy our only reasonable response is to give God everything, including our finances!

Prayer - God, there is no God but you. Money makes a terrible god. Help us with our money! We want to honor you with all we have. Help us to understand what it means to be content with our possessions. I pray that we'd find satisfaction in only you. Forgive us when we have placed money on the throne in our lives. We commit to putting you first in our finances! Amen.

Challenge the members of your group to take God up on his promise in Malachi 3 that he will pour out a blessing on those that tithe. NewSpring Church offers free financial counseling for those looking to break free from the bondage of debt and become faithful stewards of the resources he has entrusted to us. Challenge your group to take this opportunity.