



Each of us has a different relationship with money. You might have grown up in a home with very little, but your family was extremely generous with what you had. Some of you grew up in a well-off home but saw your family constantly fighting and bickering about money. Each of us has our own unique experiences with money. As we move into adulthood, we tend to relate to money in ways we learned as children. The Proverbs are a collection of wise sayings, most of them spoken by King Solomon. They teach us about trusting God, relationships, marriage, and money management. Today, we're going to look through Proverbs and discuss five instructions the Bible gives us on managing our resources.

1. We all have our own unique ideas and practices with money. For example, Pastor Neal said that some of us think money is ours to use as we please. What is something you were taught early in life that still helps you today?
2. Read Proverbs 13:11 and 21:20. These Proverbs teach us the value of saving and planning for the future. Studies show that some people tend to be more of a saver, while others are more of a spender when it comes to money. Which one do you lean towards?
3. Read Proverbs 22:7, 26-27, and Matthew 6:25. Many of us have seen the pitfalls of debt, and it seems that our culture promotes it. Share with your group a horror story that you personally experienced with debt or heard from someone else.
4. Read Proverbs 11:24, 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, and Luke 6:38. Throughout Scripture, we find the invitation to be generous. Reflecting on your life, how has being generous changed the way you view yourself, others, and the world?
5. Read Proverbs 12:24, 14:23, and Colossians 3:23-24. Hard work is praised in the Bible. Think of a time in your life when you worked very hard and felt the value of your work. What made that time so important and meaningful?
6. Read Proverbs 11:3, 28:6, and 1 Timothy 6:10. The last lesson we learned about money management spoke about the importance of character. Why is it so important to maintain our integrity when dealing with money?
7. Consider the five lessons we learned about money management: saving, avoiding debt, being generous, working hard, and keeping our character. What one lesson would you add to this list to focus on this week?
8. Pray for the strength to manage your finances in light of God's word.