



HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#) and then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (10-15 minutes)

Have an ice-breaker ready (suggestion below), eat a snack together, or go around the circle asking your group members to share any news since your last meeting. Be intentional in helping your group members get to know one another during this time and make it fun.

CHECK-IN (15-20 minutes)

Ask everyone to describe how their action step went this past week. Last week we were challenged with this question: What specific action do you need to take this week to align your soul with God's will?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

God made you to thrive. Thriving means to flourish, to prosper, or to grow vigorously. A thriving life in God is marked by joy, peace, love, faith, grace, purpose, and meaning. Yet, our path to a thriving life is under opposition. We have a real enemy who uses lies to hinder us from thriving the way God designed. The enemy is strategic in the way he speaks to us. The best way to combat his lies is to connect to God, the ultimate source of truth.

1. This weekend, we learned that "money and God make the same promises." How so? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2. Jesus says, "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24
 - a. Share a time when you made a decision or engaged in an activity because money made you a Godly promise (joy, peace, happiness, or fulfillment), but it didn't deliver.
 - b. Are you still participating in that activity?
3. "For the **love** of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, **craving money**, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:10
 - a. When you think about loving money, what comes to mind?
 - b. Paul uses words like "craving," "pierced," and "wandered from the true faith" to describe something that separates us from the Lord. We often see money as a benefit, not a hindrance. How is money enhancing your connection to Christ? How is it stopping you from living an abundant life?

**Thrive – Week 3**

4. Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Money can also be a tool. How can you (or have you) put money into its proper place so that you are serving only one master?

ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the following or create your own.

- **Start a devotional:** Consider one of the following plans from the Bible App: Prayers for Finances or Anxious About Money.
- **Get Support:**
 - Text 'FPU' to 65248 for someone to contact you about the next available Financial Peace University.
 - If you struggle with a healthy view of money, connect to Emmanuel's adult or student counseling resources at eclife.org/counseling.
- **Prayer:** Carve out a specific time to talk with and hear from God about money. Some possible helpful questions:
 - Show me, Lord, who is my master.
 - God, please show me where I can use my money to be a tool to help others.
- **Journal:** Identify your thoughts and feelings on money by keeping a daily journal of them and if you are allowing them to be your master.
- **Memorize Scripture:** To combat the lies we think, consider one of the following: Ecclesiastes 5:10, John 10:10, Matthew 6:24, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, and 1 Timothy 6:10.
- **Daily time with God:** Determine the type of routine you'd like to have to spend time learning about what pleases God. Here are some ways to do this:
 - Download the Emmanuel app and read the One Year New Testament daily.
 - Download the YouVersion app and find a devotional you can do daily. You can even decide to do one as a group to encourage one another as you do the daily readings.
 - If you recently placed your faith in Christ and texted SAVED to 65248, read the devotional provided in your starter kit.

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

- Partner up with one person in your group
- Share something that you want to apply in your life or something that hit you from this week's talk.
- Make sure you have one another's numbers and text for accountability throughout the week.

OPPORTUNITY TO USE YOUR MONEY AS A TOOL

Provide scholarships for children and students to be able to Come to Christ and Grow in Christ through our Children's, 56, Middle School, and High School camps. If interested, contact Allison Gearries at agearries@eclife.org.



Thrive – Week 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 23rd | 1824

October 3rd | VERB | Students 8th-12th grade | Fall Tailgate Party Immediately After

October 6th | Night of Worship

October 10th - 16th | Fall Break (No onsite groups or childcare at any campus)

You can find more information on these events at eclife.org.