

## Love, Sex, and Money Small Group Guide

**Warm-up Question:** (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. If you could have a \$200 gift card to the restaurant of your choice, what restaurant would you choose?
2. At what age did you stop getting taller? If you could change your height, would you?

**Read the following passages:** Ephesians 5:1-7; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20.

Three times between Ephesians 4:19 and Ephesians 5:5 Paul brings up the same three themes: sexual immorality, impurity, and greed. Sex and money have been functioning as idols for literally thousands of years. Very few things have the ability to captivate us like sex and money do, and so it is not so surprising that we are prone to justify our behaviors in these areas. If we're going to live in true love and true freedom, we need a new view of sex and money.

**Questions for Discussion** (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Author Jonathan Haidt argues that our brains often function like "internal press secretaries," justifying the choices we have already made at an emotional level. Can you think of any areas of your life in which you are prone to justify what you want to believe? Explain. How can we become more self-aware that we are doing such a thing?
2. What does it look like to have a healthy perspective on sex when we are single? Married? Divorced? How can we embrace purity without prudishness?
3. Have you been impacted by sexual trauma? If so, have you received the help you need to find healing?
4. Do you regularly view pornography or regularly feel a desire to look at pornography? Explain. When was the last time you looked at pornographic material? If this is a temptation you struggle with, are you getting any practical help in this area? Explain.
5. Why is it significant that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and members of Christ (1 Corinthians 6:15, 19)?
6. Why do you think money and possessions so often play an outsized role in our culture broadly and our lives personally? What are some ways our wealth (or lack of wealth) can impact our identity?

7. How should we think about generosity if we are in debt and barely able to pay our bills?
8. Is it sinful to have a lot of money? Explain.
9. Read again Ephesians 5:1-2. How should the material in these verses impact our behavior around sex and money?

**Pray**