



MAKING THE ADVENTURE **PERSONAL**

The Debt Adventure: Trusting God Through Financial Hardship

MAIN THING

Trusting in God as Provider Moves Us From Stressed to Blessed

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:31-33, Hebrews 12:11, Ecclesiastes 5:10, Proverbs 11:25

ICEBREAKER

Have you ever found yourself in financial hardship? How did you get there?

OPENING THOUGHT

No one knows what life will throw at you. No one saw the American economy grinding to a halt and people suffering significant loss of income like this. But they happen. Proverbs 22:3 says, "The wise see trouble and take cover, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty." So the first step to trusting God through financial hardship is to have savings for when these things happen. Proverbs 21:20 says, "The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down." However, that doesn't help people who haven't saved. What are they to do now? I've found that a plan is the quickest way to relieve anxiety, calm fears, and get out of the problem. We need a plan.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend's message?
2. With people not working, businesses not open currently, and the financial climate of the globe in question, do you find yourself nervous? What does Matthew 6:31-33 say about that? Is this hard for us? Why? What can we lean on to avoid this?
3. In order to get finances in order, what do we need to have? Is that difficult? Read Hebrews 12:11. What benefit to we get from sticking to it? Have you experienced this? How did it affect you look on life? God? Yourself?

LIFE APPLICATION

Many times, when things go upside down and backwards, we typically have to make cuts financially from our lives. Most times, those cuts include our giving. This shouldn't be. We shouldn't rob God in order to balance the bank account. Ecclesiastes 5:10 tells us what the love of money does to us, and Proverbs 11:25 shows us what giving does. It's your choice how you will use your money when things get hard. Which way will you go?

CHALLENGE

As a group, this year, is there a ministry or mission that you could give to? Is there something that you could invest in, even though times are hard? This is a major test of our faith, and a definite challenge for all of us. Are you willing to step up?