



Running On Full | Week 1 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

In the first message of *Made for More*, we learn practical financial principles that can help us live our lives “to the full.”

DISCUSSION

God wants us to live a life that is “to the full” as Jesus says in **John 10:10**: “*...I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*” God has wise, practical, and scriptural answers to every challenge, including financial challenges. Matthew 7:24-27 reminds us of the importance of building a strong financial foundation on God's Word, so that when life's storms come, we remain secure.

- How do you relate to the analogy of running on empty, either financially, emotionally, or spiritually?
- What does living “to the full” mean to you, and how can you apply this concept to different areas of your life?

Six Timeless Financial Principles:

1. Seek biblical wisdom and wise counsel.

When it comes to finances, seeking wisdom and counsel is essential to avoid making poor decisions. **Proverbs 15:22** reminds us: *Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.* With over 2,000 Bible verses addressing money, Scripture emphasizes the importance of financial accountability and surrounding ourselves with wise, trusted advisors. **Proverbs 13:20** warns: *“He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed,”* highlighting the impact of our relationships on our financial well-being.

- Why might people be hesitant to seek counsel about their finances, and how does Proverbs 15:22 address this hesitation?
- Who could be part of your “inner circle” to help you stay accountable with your finances, and what qualities should they have?

2. Know the condition of your finances.

Proverbs 27:23 commands: *Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and attend to your herds,* emphasizing the importance of understanding one's financial situation. Today,

this principle translates to knowing our assets and liabilities, which gives us a clear picture of our net worth. Just as someone might regularly weigh themselves, it's crucial to routinely assess financial health using a balance sheet to understand what you own versus what you owe.

- How might regularly reviewing your balance sheet help you make better financial decisions, and what obstacles might prevent you from doing so?

3. **Make a plan and write down financial goals.**

Planning is essential to financial success, as **Habakkuk 2:2** says: ***“Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.”*** A good plan includes a budget, like the 10-10-80 Plan, where you tithe 10%, save 10%, and live on 80%, while also building an emergency fund to prepare for unexpected expenses.

- A. Establish an emergency fund.
- B. Invest wisely.
- C. Increase your revenue.
- D. Decrease your expenses.
- E. Work hard.

- How can creating and following a budget help you take control of your financial future, and what steps can you take to make budgeting a regular habit?

4. **Get and stay out of consumer debt.**

Debt is described as a form of bondage, as **Proverbs 22:7** says: ***The borrower is servant to the lender.*** Jesus warns that ***“The thief comes to kill, steal and destroy”*** (John 10), and debt is portrayed as a tool that can steal from our financial freedom, so it's crucial to see consumer debt as an enemy to avoid and eliminate.

5. **Pay tithes and give offerings.**

Putting God first means giving Him our best, as **Malachi 3:10** promises that bringing ***“all the tithes into the storehouse”*** will lead to blessings beyond measure. Jesus reinforces this in Luke 6:38, saying, “Give, and it will be given to you,” encouraging us to tithe and trust that God will provide abundantly in return.

- In what ways have you experienced or witnessed the blessings that come from giving?

6. **Believe God for supernatural increase.**

Believing in God's economy means inviting the supernatural into our financial lives and trusting Him as the ultimate owner and provider.

- How does understanding that God is the source of wealth change your perspective on financial success and generosity?

LIFE CHALLENGE

This week, take time to assess an area of your life where you feel like you're "running on empty," whether financially, emotionally, or spiritually. Write down one practical step you can take to begin living “to the full” by applying God's wisdom to that area, trusting in His promises for abundance and provision. **Visit churchoftheking.com/financialstewardship for more helpful resources.**