

A Rule of Life | Week 6

Introduction

Jesus said that if we seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, then the rest of life takes care of itself. A rule of life is about living for one thing and then organizing everything else under it. It's about who or what sits on the throne of our lives. God has no greater competition for that seat than money. An apprentice of Jesus can have money without money having them. The litmus test of whether this is true in our lives is how to manage it. The simple way of Jesus is to give first, save second and live on the rest.

Conversation Starters (10 minutes)

- If you could instantly master any skill, what would it be?
- What motivates you the most in your work or daily life?

Sermon Notes Review (15 minutes)

What caught your attention, stood out to you, or challenged you from this weekend's teaching?

Watch the Video (5 minutes)

Group Discussion (45 minutes)

- 1. What is something in your life where you feel you could include God more?
- 2. What does it mean to "seek first the Kingdom of God" in a culture that prioritizes wealth and success? Read Matthew 6:33. How does this verse challenge the way we think about money, success, security, and our influence?
- 3. Jesus said you cannot serve both God and money. How can we tell if money is becoming our master? Read Matthew 6:24, what are some subtle ways money can take the throne of our hearts without us realizing it?
- 4. How does generosity free us from the grip of money? Read <u>Acts 20:35</u>. Why do you think Jesus taught that giving leads to blessing? Have you ever experienced freedom through generosity?
- 5. How can we practically live out the simple way of Jesus: give first, save second, live on the rest? Read Proverbs 3:9-10. What steps can we take to make sure we honor God with our finances and the blessings He has entrusted to us?

Prayer (5 minutes)

Pray for what you discussed today. You can use your own words or the words below:

Jesus, Thank You for being our Provider, our Security, and our Source of all good things. We acknowledge that everything we have—our finances, success, and influence—ultimately

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belongs to You. Help us to honor You by giving first, saving second, and living responsibly with the rest. Jesus, teach us to trust in You rather than wealth, and to use what we have to bless others. Holy Spirit, guide our hearts so that money never takes the throne meant for You alone. May our lives reflect generosity, wisdom, and faithful stewardship in all that we do. Keep us free from fear and greed, and instead fill us with gratitude and trust in Your provision. We surrender it all to You and give You the glory, now and always. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Announcements (5 minutes)

- If you have a child entering kindergarten through high school in the 2025-26 school year, we have a summer camp just for them! Camps are an incredible experience that invests in your child, helps them build a stronger relationship with Jesus, and make some friendships! Check out all the camp options at camps.sv.cc.
- Easter is just around the corner! If you haven't RSVP'd yet, there's still time! Visit easter.sv.cc today to let us know you're coming and to reserve spots for your family and any guests joining you. We can't wait to celebrate with you!
- Never served at Sun Valley? Easter is the perfect time to jump in! There are plenty of
 ways to serve, and it's a great opportunity to make a difference while helping our guests
 meet, know, and follow Jesus. Sign up today at serve.sv.cc we'd love to serve
 alongside you!

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