## STUDY GUIDE

# LIFEHOUSES: Week 4 5.18.14

#### [set up]

Do you have a LifeHouse story to share form this last week (breakthrough with neighbors, relational bridge built, etc)?

Have you had a time when someone generously blessed you financially or with other resources? How did that make you feel?

If you were handed a \$5,000 check to use on blessing your immediate neighbors, how would you use it? Maybe you don't have a \$5,000 check, but what do you have to be generous with?

### [digging deeper]

Read Romans 13:7-10. What does it mean to "owe no one anything but love"? Especially when looking at the context and verses before and after verse 8?

Does that mean the Bible teaches us that debt is forbidden? (Ex. 22:25-27; Lev. 25:35-37; Deut. 15:7-11; Ps. 37:21, 26; Matt. 5:42, Luke 6:34,35)?

How is it that we would be indebted to owe anyone, especially neighbors & strangers, our love?

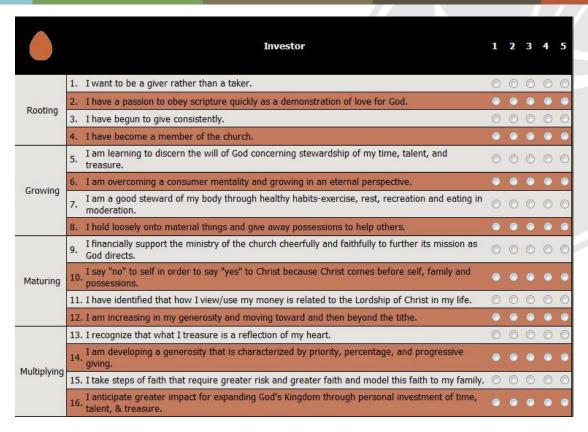
How will truly loving others like ourselves inevitably compel us to be more generous with our possessions and money?

When it comes to "owing no one anything", how does being in irresponsible and excessive debt prevent us from loving others well?

How can desiring to be more generous and positioned to bless others be an incredible motivator to reduce or eliminate debt?

How do the following verses help remind us and motivate us toward a tangible love for others? Matt. 6:19-21; Matt. 7:12; James 2:8; Acts 4:32-35; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; 1 John 3:17-18

Review the Investor section of our Fruit of New Life assessment through the lens of being a LifeHouse. What areas are you stronger in and what areas you still can grow in?



#### [living it out]

What practical next step can you take with your resources to be more loving neighbor? (make a category of generosity funds in your budget, get out of debt, lend something to your neighbors you know they don't have, etc...)

What is your plan to love and serve your neighbor on memorial weekend 5/24? If in a LifeGroup, pray for each other's efforts as many CVC'rs unite to serve on that weekend!

What is your gameplan to continue on as a LifeHouse so that this 4 week kickoff doesn't fade?

Recommended Next Step Resources:

CVC LifeGroups on biblical finances. (There will be one offered this summer by Ron Dick going through the 'Balanced' study. Check LifeGroup catalogue to see dates, time and location.

Websites with biblical and practical resources and studies on financial management

Financial Peace University - http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/home/?s\_kwcid=TC|6886|dave%20ramsey%20 financial%20peace||S|e|33734222906&gclid=CM3v29K9nL4CFaZlOgodQwkA1A

Crown Financial Ministries: MoneyLife Personal Financial Study - http://www.crown.org/

Compass - https://www.compass1.org/

Recommended Books to grow you ability as an Investor in God's kingdom:

Fields of Gold by Andy Stanley Balanced (book and DVD set) by Andy Stanley

Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn
Total Money Makeover by Dave Ramsey

Smart Money, Smart Kids by Dave Ramsey & Rachel Cruze

Your Money Map by Howard Dayton Your Money Counts by Howard Dayton

Money & marriage God's Way by Howard Dayton