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ENTREPRENEUR

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Stewardship  
vs Ownership

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

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*This guide is intended for personal reflection and to help facilitate a meaningful group discussion. Take a moment to watch the video and read over the guide before your group meeting. Be prepared with some personal examples to help encourage discussion. If helpful, before you meet, print out or email a copy of this guide to all those who will attend the meeting.*

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# Stewardship vs. Ownership

## SERVING ONLY ONE MASTER

God. Money. Humanity. Having a proper understanding of our relationship with each is vital for our success and well-being.

San Francisco and its rich history serves as a backdrop for our discussion about what it means to believe we are stewards of the resources entrusted to us, rather than having ownership of these provisions from God alone.

The California Gold Rush began in 1848. The first flakes were found at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California, about a 2-hour drive from where I stand.

The promise of adventure and riches lured approximately 300,000 people to California from all across the United States and abroad.

The dream of hitting it big exists here to this day as people shift their gaze from the shine of gold to the allure of tech. Silicon Valley has grown to become the place many hope to strike it rich by discovering success and wealth.

In the world of venture capital, the prospect of a successful "exit" looms large in the minds of investors. A VC's business model is less about the money that goes into a startup than it is about what comes out. The big exit is a big part of the entrepreneurial frame that culture pushes on us.

And yet, the truth remains. Money is just a tool. God is the ultimate goal.



### GUIDING SCRIPTURE:

*"For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all. Now therefore, our God, We thank You And praise Your glorious name." —1 Chronicles 29:11-13*

**GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**

ACTION	FOCUS	ESTIMATED TIME
<b>Welcome</b>	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> What burdens are you carrying? What do you need to put aside today to be present and here to support your growth and contribute meaningfully.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 seconds around the circle</li> <li>• Verbalize what to put aside.</li> <li>• Option to write and put in a basket.</li> </ul>	10 mins
<b>Video Session</b>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION:</b> Every provision—money, opportunity, success—is from God above. These gifts are freely and abundantly given to us not because we earned them, but because God loves us, and he expects us to use his provisions to bless others and bring glory to his name.</p>	15 mins
<b>Group Discussion</b>	<p>We need to keep ourselves in check when it comes to ownership versus stewardship. For that to happen, we must be open to self-critique and peer evaluation.</p> <p>Ask each person to share and incorporate any learnings from the video. Here are a few questions to get you started:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How are you making yourself accountable?</b></li> <li>• <b>How do others see you interacting with money?</b></li> </ul> <p>Facilitator asks if any members would like to share an action they are committing to take this month based on the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group members share any practice they would like to start or discontinue in their personal life of business via Zoom chat or post-it note</li> <li>• Other members agree to pray for and hold them accountable.</li> </ul>	45-60 mins
<b>(Optional) Business Spotlight</b>	<p>One individual presents information on their business venture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One person shares about their business model, stage and scope</li> <li>• Participants ask questions and get to know more</li> </ul>	10 mins
<b>Prayer</b>	<p>The group wraps in a time of prayer and encouragement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Popcorn prayer—Designate one person to begin the prayer and another person to end the prayer. Then allow space and moments of silence for people to pray as they feel led.</li> <li>• Zoom rooms or small groups for prayer</li> </ul>	10 mins

## Discussion Questions

In this session, Henry reminds us that every provision—money, opportunity, success—is from God above. These gifts are freely and abundantly given to us not because we earned them, but because God loves us, and he expects us to use his provisions to bless others and bring glory to his name. Here are a few more questions to help your group go even deeper in discussion.

### *MONEY*

The more we have, the more temptation we have to separate ourselves from people around us who don't have the same kind of resources. We can feel closer to our Father in Heaven when we turn towards him rather than run towards money.

- **In what ways are you dependent upon money as your power?**
- **How can you look at money differently? And what are some ways you can keep yourself accountable?**
- **God's resources are abundant... are you satisfied with God holding the abundance and you being dependent upon him? What does that look like for you? How have you seen this in action?**

### *OPPORTUNITY*

A generous heart is what helps to keep us free from greed, control, and selfishness. What ways can you make the most of every opportunity God gives you?

- **How can you turn your gaze from yourself to others?**
- **How can you be more GENEROUS? TRANSPARENT? What would others say about your generosity and transparency?**

### *SUCCESS*

Like money, worldly success has a way of separating us from people rather than drawing us closer. It starts small, but eventually you start to feel like you can't connect with others who haven't enjoyed the same level of success as you. Over time, you become inwardly focused.

- **How can you turn your gaze from yourself to others?**
- **Do you treat people like commodities? As numbers? As ROI's? How can you shift that to have relational meaning?**

## 5 Ideas to Explore the Mark Further

There's no limit to the ways you can explore the Marks of a Faith Driven Entrepreneur. What we provide below are five ideas we think might lead each one of us to an even greater understanding of our God-given call to create.

1. **Journal:** Be honest with yourself and determine the hold money has on you and your life. From a false sense of security to an inflated opinion of your acumen, how has your pursuit of wealth impacted your view of the world and people?
2. **Interact:** This month, consider how you can be more focused on others rather than self-centered.
3. **Consider:** Henry says "a generous heart is what helps to keep us free from greed, control, and selfishness." Do you agree? We tend to focus on finances when we think about generosity. What are some other ways we can give beyond just our treasure?
4. **Act Differently:** Donate to worthy causes. Make a plan for practical and achievable ways your business can be more generous more regularly. Start dropping money in the tip jar.
5. **Learn From Others:** Visit [faithdrivenentrepreneur.org](http://faithdrivenentrepreneur.org) to learn more or join the conversation by listening to our weekly Faith Driven Entrepreneur Podcast.

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Entrepreneurs can travel a lonely road. But you're not alone. You're sitting next to a group of like-minded business owners right now. One of the best ways to grow the Faith Driven Movement is to multiply your group.

**Is someone in your group ready to raise his or her hand to start a Faith Driven Entrepreneur Group at a local church? Apply at [faithdrivenentrepreneur.org/lead-a-group](http://faithdrivenentrepreneur.org/lead-a-group)**