



WEEK FOUR: LIVE LIFE ON MARGIN – Study Guide

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We are all limited. No one has more than 24 hours a day. Even those with a high income will eventually run out of money. Making the most of our resources is important. However, we are frequently far too short-sighted. We end up settling for packed-full schedules and bigger portfolios, and miss out on investing in God's kingdom.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) What kind of things do you catch yourself saying you would do "If I had more time"?
Or, what kind of things do you catch yourself saying you would do "If I had more money"?

Into the Bible

- 2) Putting your resources where God is working takes planning, intentionality and sacrifice. Read **Acts 4:32-37** to see how the church was making it a priority to give to spreading God's kingdom and caring for one another. Why were they so generous? How is that different from waiting until they had more to be generous?

BOOM

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- 3) Having money left over to invest in God’s kingdom takes wisdom and planning ahead. You can’t spend everything you make and expect to have anything left. How can the following passages influence your money management so that you can be more generous?
- a. **Deuteronomy 16:17**
 - b. **Proverbs 13:11**
 - c. **Proverbs 28:27**
 - d. **1 Corinthians 16:1-2**

How Does This Apply?

- 4) What are some unnecessary expenses you can cut in order to grow in generosity? If you can find an extra \$25, \$100, or even \$1,000 a month by cutting expenses, what are some ways you can invest in God’s kingdom?
- 5) Where can you be wiser with your time? What could you do with an extra 30 minutes (the length of a sitcom) a day?

BOOM

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Digging Deeper: Going Further on Your Own

- 6) All of **Matthew 5-7** covers Jesus' "sermon on the mount." It's His longest teaching recorded in the gospel accounts. He likely preached for three days, which means that Matthew's account is a summary or highlight reel of Jesus' teaching over those days. While Jesus covered many topics, his great emphasis is on the Christian life. It was an incredibly practical teaching, in that he thoroughly covered day-to-day topics. It was also incredibly impractical, because of how difficult it is to follow. This is especially true for verses such as **Matthew 5:48**. Some of the teaching seems so impossible, in fact, that some people believe Jesus was teaching an impossible lifestyle that can only be lived in heaven. Do you think that's the case? If not, how is the sermon on the mount to be lived out?

John 14:16

John 16:7

2 Corinthians 5:21